

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 30, 1999

Isaac Lee
Editor-in-Chief
Semana Magazine
Bogotá, Colombia

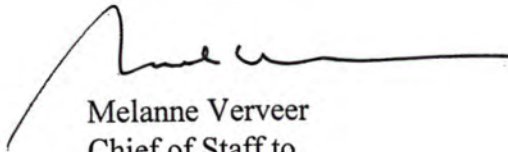
Dear Mr. Lee:

Thank you for your letter and *Revista Semana's* request to interview the First Lady, which was forwarded to us by Ambassador Moreno.

I have forwarded the request to Marsha Berry, Director of Communications for the First Lady. If an interview is possible, her office will be in touch with you.

Very best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Melanne Verveer', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady



ISAAC LEE POSSIN
DIRECTOR

Bogotá, July 23 1999

Ms.
Melannie Berveer
Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
The White House
Washington , D.C
USA

Dear Ms. Berveer:

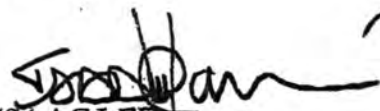
I am writing with regards to the conversation you had in recent days with the Colombian Ambassador to Washington, Mr. Luis Alberto Moreno, where he requested an interview with the First Lady for SEMANA, the magazine which I head. In reference to this request, I wanted to provide you with a brief overview of our magazine.

SEMANA, which was founded in 1982, is a general interest magazine in the style of Time and Newsweek. It is the most widely read and influential magazine in Colombia, with over 150.000 subscribers and a total circulation of close to 170.000. Moreover, SEMANA is a favorite among Colombians living in the U.S., and our website (www.semana.com) is the second most visited in the country. SEMANA has received several international awards including the Maria Moors Cabot Prize for Journalistic Excellence awarded by Columbia University and one of our editors is a Pulitzer Prize recipient. The magazine has the exclusive rights to reprint articles from The Economist, Life and Newsweek for the Colombian market.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information and please respond to our interview request by e-mail (lee@semana.com), fax (011-571-621-0475) or phone (011-571-622-2277) at your earliest convenience.

Thanks for your consideration.

Best regards,



ISAAC LEE
Editor-in-Chief
SEMANA Magazine

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 25, 1999

Adrienne Lavallee
4114 Davis Place, NW #211
Washington, DC 20007

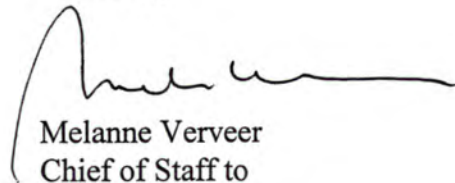
Dear Ms. Lavallee

Thank you for your inquiry about working in the
Office of the First Lady.

Currently, there are no positions available in our
office. However, we will keep your resume on file in the
event that an opportunity becomes available.

Best wishes, and thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanne Verveer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

ADRIENNE C. LAVALLEE

4114 Davis Place, N.W., #211
Washington, D.C. 20007
(202) 333-2480

EXPERIENCE:**THE WHITE HOUSE PROJECT, Washington, D.C.**

July 1998 To The Present

Fundraising Assistant: Project founded by Ms. Foundation For Women, with mission to elect a female President of the United States within the next ten years. Responsible for developing point of purchase development strategy and maintaining fundraising database. Assist in preparing high and low-dollar corporate fundraising strategy.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FORUM, Washington, DC

June 1998 To The Present

Volunteer: Fundraising and event planning work for grass roots project designed to recruit 100,000 new members and raise \$500,000 by the year 2000.

ADRIENNE C. LAVALLEE, ESQ., Washington, DC

November 1996 To June 1998

Contract Attorney: General litigation practice including antitrust, real estate, trusts and estates, and corporate audits. Projects included work for Arthur Anderson, Collier and Shannon, and several solo practitioners.

JOSEPH F. KEEFE FOR CONGRESS, Manchester, NH

Summer 1996

Volunteer: Voter turn-out work for campaign for Congress of former Chairman of the New Hampshire Democratic Party.

CHESHIRE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, Keene, NH

January 1995 To June 1996

Prosecutor: Full responsibility for managing a felony and misdemeanor caseload. Duties included meeting with and preparing victims, presenting indictments, researching, drafting, and arguing motions, and representing the State at trial. Was sole chair of 15 jury trials, resulting in 13 convictions. Domestic violence and child sexual abuse cases were a major portion of my work.

FRANKLIN PIERCE COLLEGE, Keene, NH

January To February 1996

Associate Professor: Taught advanced criminal investigation, including the constitutional guidelines governing law enforcement.

COVENANT HOUSE, New Orleans, LA

September 1993 To May 1994

Legal Advocate: Advised minors on the legal and practical solutions to their family problems.

UPDIKE, KELLY & SPELLACY, Hartford, CT

Summer 1992

Summer Associate: General corporate and litigation practice, including lobbying in the Connecticut legislature. Drafted legislative briefing materials for corporate clients.

THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN TOM LANTOS, Washington, DC
Summer 1992

Intern: Researched various issues and formulated official responses to constituents' queries on legal and social issues.

EDUCATION:

TULANE LAW SCHOOL, New Orleans, LA
Juris Doctor, May 1994
Common Law Curriculum

COLUMBIA COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, New York, NY
Bachelor of Arts, May 1989
Major: Political Science
Concentration: International Political Economy

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, London, England
Year Abroad Program
Major: Economic History

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 12, 1999

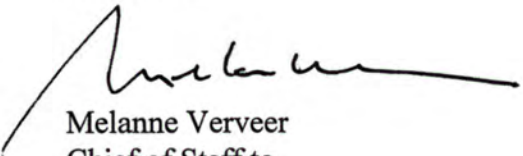
Ruth Lummins
Director
Jerrie Cobb Foundation, Inc.
1008 Beach Blvd.
Sun City Center, FL 33573-5405

Dear Ms. Lummins:

On behalf of the First Lady, thank you for your letter and the tape with excerpts on Jerrie Cobb.

We wish you and Jerrie all the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanne Verveer', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

(K)

JERRIE COBB FOUNDATION, INC.
1008 Beach Blvd.
Sun City Center, FL 33573-5405
Fax: 813.634.2606

January 25, 1999

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to the First Lady
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer;

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending the picture taken of Mrs. Clinton with Jerrie Cobb at their meeting last July. At that time Mrs. Clinton asked to see any videos that might be available on Jerrie. Enclosed is a short (18 min.) compilation of excerpts from recent national TV news programs on Jerrie.

After watching John Glenn's return to space last October Jerrie returned to her humanitarian work in the Amazon jungle of South America. Jerrie is an American heroine whether she flies in space or not. But she can never give up her dream of contributing to our nation's space program.

As a director of her non-profit Foundation I am her point of contact here in the U.S. Please thank Mrs. Clinton for her graciousness in meeting with Jerrie.

Blessings,

Ruth Lummis

Ruth Lummis,
Director

RECENT COMMENTS ABOUT JERRIE COBB:

"Jerrie is not a victim, but rather a person of enormous spirit who has risen above many obstacles to live a useful and adventuresome life."

"Jerrie is an untapped national treasure. She is somewhat restrained and reserved, but she feels the passion of a missionary when she speaks about her flying and astronaut training. When she was denied the right to be the first woman to fly in space, she channeled her energies and talents to humanitarian work in the Amazon jungle but never gave up her dream of flying in space. She is like a thoroughbred who was never allowed to race."

"As a physician I can tell you that Ms. Cobb is a very healthy individual. As a pilot I can tell you that she can fly a plane like it is part of her body and soul. As a medical volunteer in Third world countries I can affirm her ability to react to the intense pressure of new, uncertain, and dangerous situations. As an American I am proud to have her as a countryman. We all deserve to see her fly in space."

"Jerrie believes that space is God's unspoiled world which humans should not trespass upon without a feeling of reverence."

"Jerrie is an American hero who should have been the world's first woman to fly in space. We are Aviation and Space Program supporters who believe that sending Jerrie into space will send a marvelous message to all the world."

"Jerrie is a private person filled with a love of God, the sky, and a deep passion to fly in space for medical (aging) and environmental research (world's rain forests)."

"After reviewing her outstanding background and achievements we stand in awe of Jerrie's dedication, determination, and commitment to her dreams and goals. There seems to be no other person more qualified or worthy of this opportunity."

"It's logical that a woman would be next and there is no one in America that is more qualified and deserving to be in that space shuttle than Jerrie Cobb."

"America needs a heroine. NASA needs a heroine. Women throughout the world need a heroine. Jerrie is that person. She deserves the opportunity to make her lifelong dream come true."

"Jerrie's is a Cinderella story, the one who stays home while the stepsister returns to outer space."

"Jerrie is the people's astronaut. One of us."

"Go Jerrie! Go and do what most of us only dream of. Go for us. We're with you all the way."

JERRIE COBB FOUNDATION, INC.

**1008 Beach Blvd.
Sun City Center, FL 33573-5405
Fax: 813.634.2606**

January 20, 1999

Update on Jerrie for her friends,

After watching John Glenn's return to orbit and landing last November, Jerrie returned to her humanitarian work in South American. Since there is no way she can keep in touch from the Amazon jungle, I have volunteered to be her point of contact.

Jerrie is an American heroine whether she flies in space or not. But she can never give up her dream, it means everything to her. It's important to us also, since only two women pilots have ever been allowed to fly in space, both military. Back in the 1920s women had more opportunities to fly than that. Two is not enough! NASA is a civilian agency and should allow civilian pilots to contribute their talents. The benefits that will accrue to NASA from flying Jerrie will be immense.

Enclosed is an 18 minute Video compilation of excerpts from NBC, CBS, ABC, and Japan TV news programs featuring Jerrie. More will be forthcoming. There are still a few copies of her new book left, *Jerrie Cobb, Solo Pilot*, (address above, \$22.95.)

Media requests for interviews are coming in from England, France, India, Australia as well as the U.S. Another book is in the works, a documentary is being planned for national T.V., and two major studios want to make a movie about Jerrie's life. Of course, none of this matters to Jerrie, she just keeps on flying, serving God, and her fellow man. And her passion to fly in space keeps right on simmering.

Jerrie plans to return for Eileen Collin's launch in March 1999 (if NASA was wise, they would put Jerrie onboard.) She's looking forward to seeing many of you there. She will also be at the Women in Aviation Meeting in Orlando. I hear from her every week or so via shortwave HAM radio patch, and can pass messages on to her.

I've just been told that 1999 is the International Year of the Older Person. What a perfect time for Jerrie to contribute to our country's space program! Let's help it happen!

Have a great and joyous 1999! It's going to be a good year for all of us!

Blessings,

Ruth Lummis

<http://www.jerrie-cobb.org>

SUPPORTERS OF JERRIE COBB TO FLY IN SPACE
(partial list)

Thousands of people around the world who are signing petitions asking NASA to send Jerrie into space.

60,000 members of the American Association of University Women.

Ninety Nines, Inc., International Organization of Licensed Women Pilots.

National Women's History Project.

Whirlygirls, Inc. (women helicopter pilots worldwide).

Pioneer Woman Museum.

Women In Aviation, Inc.

Oklahoma Historical Association.

Many, many school children, and teachers.

Women Of The West Museum

U. S. Senators: Barbara Boxer, Diane Feinstein, James Inhof, Don Nickles.

U. S. Representatives: Dennis Kucinich, Dana Rohrabacher, Dan Miller.

Women Fly, Inc.

Dr. Buzz Aldrin, Apollo astronaut, pilot for the first moon landing.

National Organization For Women (N.O.W).

Experimental Aircraft Association (E.A.A.)

Oklahoma Air and Space Museum.

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

JERRIE COBB --- FACT SHEET

- * **Born March 5, 1931 in Norman, Oklahoma.**
 - * **Learns to fly in a bi-wing Waco at age 12. Works at small country airports after school, weekends to gain flying experience and learn mechanics.**
 - * **Barnstorms around the Great Plains in a Piper J-3 Cub at age 16.**
 - * **Professional pilot at age 18. Flying jobs include pipeline patrol, charter flying, teaching men to fly, crop dusting, teaching ground school.**
 - * **As an International ferry pilot Jerrie flies USAF military fighters and bombers to foreign governments around the world. 1951-1955.**
 - * **Flying as test pilot Jerrie sets four world aviation records for speed, distance, altitude(2). 1957-1960**
 - * **One of the world's top pilots, Jerrie is selected in 1959 to be the first woman to take the Mercury astronaut selection tests. She passes all three phases of grueling astronaut tests, qualifying as America's first woman astronaut at age 29, three years before Russia sent the world's first woman into space.**
 - * **James Webb, Administrator, NASA, appoints Jerrie a consultant (1961).**
 - * **Jerrie testifies at a Congressional hearing called to find out why U.S. women are not allowed to fly in space(1962).**
 - * **Biography published "Woman Into Space: The Jerrie Cobb Story" 1963**
 - * **Thirty-five years flying as a jungle pilot/missionary in the Amazon rain forest of South America serving the primitive people (1963-1998).**
 - * **Honored by the governments of France, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil for humanitarian flying.**
 - * **Awarded Harmon Trophy for world's best woman pilot by President Nixon in White House Ceremony. (1973)**
 - * **Nominated for Nobel Peace Prize. (1981)**
 - * **"Jerrie Cobb, Solo Pilot" published (1997.)**
"The story of a courageous woman with an extraordinary talent for flying, who chose not to exploit it, but rather to use it in serving others."
- 

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- * **"Jerrie Cobb, Solo Pilot" published (1997.)**
"The story of a courageous woman with an extraordinary talent for flying, who chose not to exploit it, but rather to use it in serving others."

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 19, 1999

Dani Lett
5381 Deerfield Village Dr.
West Bloomfield, MI 48322

Dear Dani:

Thank you for your thoughtful card and generous words. You did fantastic job at the Interagency Council and we all miss you.

It's wonderful to hear that you are getting settled at the US Attorney's Office in Michigan. They are lucky to have you. Thank you for all you have done for Vital Voices, for Women's progress and for your many important contributions to the First Lady's work. Good luck in Michigan and please stay in touch!

Best wishes,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 10, 1999

Brian J. Laline
Editor
Staten Island Advance
950 Fingerboard Road
Staten Island, NY 10305

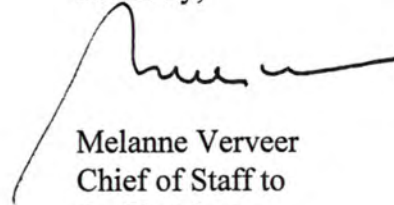
Dear Mr. Laline:

Thank you for your letter and invitation for the First Lady to keynote the Staten Island Advance's annual luncheon on November 18 in Staten Island, which Casey Newhouse forwarded to us.

Mrs. Clinton conveys her appreciation for the invitation and for the Staten Advance's ongoing effort to honor those who do so much. It is not yet certain whether Mrs. Clinton's schedule will allow her to attend the luncheon, but I have forwarded your letter to Patti Solis Doyle, Director of Scheduling for the First Lady. As plans for the Fall are completed, we will be in touch.

Very best wishes.

Sincerely,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady



Staten Island Advance

950 FINGERBOARD ROAD • STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10305 • TEL (718) 981-1234

February 24, 1999

Melanne S. Verveer
Assistant to the President and
Chief of Staff to the First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I am editor of the Staten Island Advance, a Newhouse newspaper located on Staten Island in New York City.

Every year, our newspaper sponsors a luncheon honoring women in our community and we seek out significant keynote speakers. No one could be a more significant speaker for us than Hillary Clinton.

I have written Mrs. Clinton the accompanying letter. It invites her to be with us, and explains the purpose of the luncheon.

Any consideration you could give us would be greatly appreciated. I'm sure Mrs. Clinton would appreciate the value of this event in our community because it highlights women who work very hard to shape a better life for so many of our neighbors, and because of all the attention it generates for them.

Again, your time in reviewing this is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Laline
Editor

/ek



Staten Island Advance

950 FINGERBOARD ROAD • STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10305 • TEL (718) 981-1234

February 24, 1999

First Lady Hillary Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I don't need to tell you what the hot political news has been here in New York. Believe it or not, that is *not* why I'm writing.

Ever since you came upon the national political scene, my newspaper has wanted to invite you to be the keynote speaker at a gala luncheon we host every November on Staten Island. In fact, one year we did invite you, but your schedulers indicated early on that you were unavailable.

I've decided to try again.

First, we are the Staten Island Advance, part of the Newhouse group of newspapers, magazines and cable television stations. In fact, the Staten Island Advance was group founder S.I. Newhouse's first newspaper.

Let me tell you a little about the event.

It is a luncheon, and each year six different women from the Staten Island community are honored who have done enormous amounts of volunteer work far beyond what anyone could expect. They do it for the love of the community and for the love of the people they serve.

We have had more than 1,000 guests attend this luncheon to honor the women, and we have had various keynoters over the years who you know or would recognize. People like Dr. Lorraine Hale from Harlem's Hale House, or Miss Manners, or Ethel Kennedy, or Heloise, or Elizabeth Dole.

The Staten Island Advance has been staging this luncheon for 37 years. Each has been a success. Not just because the speaker has been so good, but because the women being honored have done such incredible work. One, a Protestant minister, walks the waterfront on the coldest days of the year helping the homeless. Or caring for people dying of AIDS. And their families. Seven days. Every week.

Another -- and one you might have even met at some point -- lost her husband to a young man with a gun in a robbery that went very bad. Her name is Tina Johnstone and she has crusaded absolutely tirelessly for the past seven years all over America to bring attention to the gun violence issue. She did a lot of work with Chuck Schumer during the last election to advance her cause. And she does all this while raising a child, and still living on Staten Island.

All these women have something in common, although their causes are often very different. They dedicated themselves to making some aspect of our hometown better, our city better, or our country better.

The date of the luncheon this year is Thursday, November 18, 1999.

Could you consider honoring all of us and our community by attending and addressing the women being honored, and all those who come to honor them? It is quite a special day for all of us, and we really play it big in our newspaper the next day so all of our readers get a chance to experience what the thousand or so did the day before.

I'm always available to answer any questions your staff might have if you would consider being with us. Would you consider it?

Sincerely,



Brian J. Laline
Editor

/ek

Dear Melanne,

I just wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed my time at the President's Interagency Council. It was a pleasure to meet you & have the opportunity to work so closely with the office of the First Lady. I will never forget my time in Theresa's office & the work I did on behalf of you & the First

Lady.

I am all settled in Michigan now. I am enjoying my work at the U.S. Attorneys' office. It is all new to me so I am learning a great deal.

I hope to see you again — maybe at the next Vital Voices!
Thanks again for everything —
Dani Lett

Dani Lett
5381 Deerfield Vig. Dr.
West Bloomfield, MI

48322



EQUAL
JUSTICE
FOR ALL



Best
wishes
Thanks
for
great
job

Ms. Melanne Verveer,
chief of staff
Office of the First Lady
old Exec. office Bldg.
Room 100
Washington, DC

20500

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

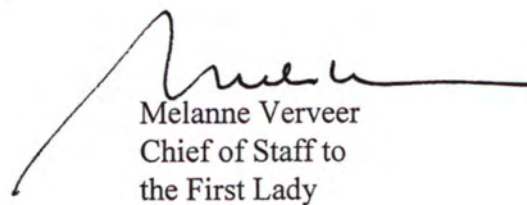
April 13, 1999

Ruth Lummis
Director
Jerrie Cobb Foundation, Inc.
1008 Beach Blvd.
Sun City Center, FL 33573-5404

Dear Ms. Lummis:

Thank you for your letter and the latest materials about
Jerrie Cobb. Our best wishes to you both.

Sincerely,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady


Jerrie Cobb Foundation, Inc.
1008 Beach Blvd.
Sun City Center, FL 33573-5405
Fax: 813.634.2606

March 12, 1999

Dear Ms. Verveer,

Here's the third in the series for Mrs. Clinton - short videos of national TV coverage on Jerrie. Thanks to Mrs. Clinton things are looking up! Jerrie's official application is now at NASA.

Jerrie arrived safely back from the jungles of South America and is now flying around the U.S., continuing her quest for space. Happy Spring!

Blessings,



Ruth Lummis
Director



THE NATION

NASA considers female science team for shuttle

By Paul Hoversten
USA TODAY

John Glenn, move over.

NASA is considering flying an all-female science team on a future space shuttle mission to do for women's health issues what the 77-year-old retired Ohio senator did for the geriatric set.

Three to five women, who are either astronauts or scientists, would be part of a seven-member shuttle crew that would measure how female bodies adapt to weightlessness, how much bones and muscles change and whether hormonal levels fluctuate.

If approved, the mission would have the most women on a single flight in nearly 40 years of space exploration. Men probably would command and pilot the shuttle.

The plan is under review at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston. Scientists inside and outside NASA must approve the mission before the space agency will commit to a flight. No dates for a mission have been set.

"For too long, scientists have neglected women," Peggy Wilhide, NASA's associate administrator for public affairs, says. "Science has assumed that research on males equals re-

search on females, and we know that isn't the case."

A flight featuring all female test subjects also might be inspiring to girls who want to study math or science, she says.

"John Glenn's flight was not a stunt, and if we do this one, it will not be a stunt," Wilhide says.

Glenn's medical tests from space, to learn how weightlessness affects aging bodies, still are under review.

The idea has supporters and critics, some at the same time.

Sherry Marts, scientific director of the nonprofit Society for the Advancement of Women's Health Research in Wash-

ington, D.C., says too many lab studies have paid too little attention to the unique physical makeup of women.

The assumption has been "that women are just small men with slightly different plumbing," Marts says. "But we know there are all sorts of differences, and exploring those can lead to some breakthroughs."

Scientists still don't know, for example, why women tend to develop heart disease after menopause or why men and women react differently to certain drugs.

But Marts says the mission would be a mistake if it exploits

women for merely political or public relations reasons.

"My fear is, this (flight) would be just a feel-good mission," she says. "It may be that now that they've sent a senior citizen into space, it's time to send some women."

Nearly three dozen women have flown since NASA began accepting women to fly in space in 1978. Of the current class of 144 shuttle astronauts, 32 are women. Of those, only two are shuttle pilots and one a commander, the highest rank.

Eileen Collins is set to command the space shuttle Columbia in July, when an X-ray telescope will be launched into orbit.

SUPPORTERS OF JERRIE COBB TO FLY IN SPACE

(partial list)

- 1. 30,000 people who have signed petitions asking NASA to fly Jerrie.**
- 2. National Organization For Women (N.O.W.).**
- 3. 60,000 members of the American Association of University Women - California.**
- 4. Federation of Business and Professional Women - Texas.**
- 5. America Association of University Women - Minnesota.**
- 6. Ninety Nines, Inc., International Organization of Licensed Women Pilots.**
- 7. The National Women's Political Caucus.**
- 8. International Women's Air And Space Museum.**
- 9. National Women's History Project.**
- 10. Whirlygirls, Inc. (Licensed women helicopter pilots worldwide).**
- 11. American Association of University Women - Michigan.**
- 12. Pioneer Woman Museum.**
- 13. Federation of Business and Professional Women - California**
- 14. Women In Aviation, Inc.**
- 15. Oklahoma Historical Association.**
- 16. Many, many school children, and teachers.**
- 17. Women Of The West Museum.**
- 18. U. S. Senators: Barbara Boxer, Diane Feinstein, James Inhof, Don Nickles.**
- 19. Experimental Aircraft Association (E.A.A.).**
- 20. Oklahoma Air and Space Museum.**
- 21. Women Fly, Inc.**
- 22. The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.**

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 14, 1999

Karen Larson and Dave Navarre
Co-Directors
Hands on DC
PO Box 1125
Washington, DC 20013-1125

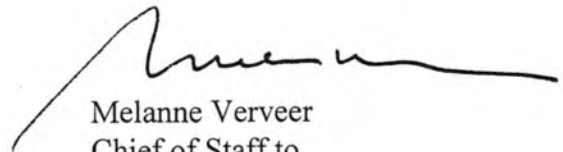
Dear Ms. Larson and Mr. Navarre:

Thank you for your letter and invitation for the First Lady to keynote the kick-off -rally for the April 10 Hands on DC Work-a-thon.

Regrettably, Mrs. Clinton's schedule did not permit her to accept your kind invitation. But she greatly appreciates Hands on DC's efforts to re-vitalize the District's schools and conveys her thanks to you and your colleagues. Many members of Mrs. Clinton's staff participated in the Work-a-thon. Your program makes a most important contribution to our city's children.

You have the great satisfaction of knowing that Hands on DC matters to so many. Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanne Verveer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady



**HANDS ON DC
ADVISORY BOARD**

Kate Becker
Director, AmeriCorps*NCCC
Washington DC Campus

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Hon Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Vincent Pan
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States, America's Promise

Terrence Sheehy
Partner, Howrey & Simon

William Shore
President, Share Our Strength

**Brigadier General William E.
Stevens, USAF (Ret.)**

January 27th, 1999

Ms. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The First Lady of the United States
Office of Correspondence
Room 18
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Clinton:

We are writing to invite you to be our keynote speaker at the kick-off-rally for our fifth annual Hands on DC Work-a-thon on Saturday, April 10, 1999. Between two and three thousand people will attend this highly-publicized rally at Eastern High School in preparation for the work day. Volunteers will paint, plant, and repair in 45 DC public schools and raise approximately \$70,000 in college scholarship funds. Our organizing committee is extending this invitation to you in recognition of your tremendous contribution to programs and policies that benefit youth and community development.

In his State of the Union speech last week, your husband gave the call to modernize 5,000 schools. Right here in the District of Columbia, thousands of public school children in the nation's Capital sit in classrooms with cracked walls, lead-based paint, water damage, rotting floors, and a host of other structural problems. Many students who continue to fight for an education in this environment often finish school only to discover that they lack the money to go on to college. Many others realize this problem sooner and drop out because their futures seem so limited.

As you have often noted, it takes a village to raise a child. It is in this spirit that thousands of volunteers participate in Hands on DC's one-day, citywide work-a-thon. During the past four years, this 100% volunteer effort has spent over 50,000 hours cleaning, repairing, landscaping, and improving over 80 DC public schools. We have also raised \$250,000 for college scholarship funds, benefiting organizations such as The Children's Defense Fund's Beat the Odds Scholarships, Funds for the Community's Future, and College Bound.

Hands On DC

Post Office Box 1125 Washington, DC 20013-1125

202/667-5808 * ForDCKids@aol.com * www.handsondc.org

Hands On DC is an all-volunteer service project of College Bound, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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Perhaps the greatest success, however, is the community spirit that Hands on DC continues to build in support of the schools. This heightened spirit results in positive change long after the event is over. For example, a team of medical school students that worked at Francis Junior High School on the day of the event last year has since started an after-school tutoring program for students at the school. Louise Chapman, teacher at Peabody Elementary School, summed it up well, "Hands on DC was the greatest boost in morale that our school received all year."

We have many partners in this effort, including the AmeriCorps*VISTAs working with Funds for the Community's Future and the DC School system, several teams from the AmeriCorps*NCCC who play a major role, and a host of other non-profit and community-based organizations.

We would be honored if you would speak on behalf of Hands on DC's mission for "Better schools and brighter futures."

Please respond to Karen Larson at 202/289-2903 by Friday, February 26th so that we can make the proper arrangements. We have enclosed some background information on our event for your review.

On behalf of the Hands on DC organizing committee we applaud your civic achievements and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Karen Larson
Co-Director
Hands On DC '99

Dave Navarre
Co-Director
Hands On DC '99

CC: Shirley Sagawa, Deputy Chief of Staff to the First Lady of the United States.

Attachments:

- *Event Specifics*
- *Hands On DC Information Sheet*
- *Hands On DC Press*

Field Name	Field Type	Formula / Entry Option
Code_Highlights	Number	Indexed
Code_Intro	Number	Indexed
Code_Profiles	Number	Indexed
Commission List	Text	Indexed
Commission Name	Text	Indexed
Commission WC	Calculation (Number)	= WordCount(Commission List)
Contact_AC	Text	Indexed
Contact_LSA_HE	Text	Indexed
Contact_LSA_K12	Text	Indexed
Contact_NCCC	Text	Indexed
Contact_SC&VISTA	Text	Indexed
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Date Mod_manual	Date	Indexed
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Fn AC_N	Number	Indexed
Fn LSA_AC	Number	
Fn LSA_HE	Number	Indexed
Fn NCCC	Number	Indexed
Fn PF	Number	
Fn Text Bottom AAG	Text	Indexed
Fn Text Top AAG	Text	Indexed
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Fx sum members	Number	Indexed
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Thanks for your assistance.

Ja

Event Specifics

- Location: The front steps of Eastern Senior High School, 1800 East Capitol Streets, NW. The 1800 block of East Capitol will be closed for the event.
- Date: The date is April 10th, 1999.
- Time: The kick-off rally runs from 9 AM to 9:30 AM. The First Lady could speak for any length at any period during that time, but we would prefer for him to speak for between five and ten minutes starting at 9:20 PM. We can move the rally earlier in the day if necessary.
- Audience: The audience will be between two and three thousand Hands On DC Volunteers.
- Media: Hands On DC has always been the lead story on every local TV network (ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX) on our event day, and is usually featured in both the Washington Post and the Washington Times.



Lend DC's Kids a Hand

- ✎ Repair public schools in Washington, DC
- ✎ Raise funds for college scholarships
- ✎ Build community spirit and friendships

Do you want to help improve the lives of young people by volunteering with a dynamic group? Join **Hands on DC**, the city-wide effort to renovate public schools in Washington, DC and provide college scholarships to deserving students.

Each spring, thousands of **Hands on DC** volunteers participate in a one-day Work-a-Thon – fixing up dozens of public schools while they build friendships and community spirit. By collecting pledges for hours worked, they also help fund local college scholarship programs. Last year, over 2,500 volunteers worked at 49 schools and raised \$62,000 in scholarship money!

There are many ways you can lend a hand to the April 10, 1999 Work-a-Thon. **We invite you to help us plan the Work-a-Thon now or to volunteer on the day of the event.** No experience or special skills are required. All Hands on DC participants contribute as much time and energy as they can offer. Open meetings of the Organizing Committee are held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday evenings at Francis Junior High School (24th and N Sts, NW).

The troubled condition of DC schools is well-documented. Students who already face enormous challenges find themselves in school buildings which shout out that learning is not important. The students who do continue to fight for a high school education often discover they lack the money to go on to college. **Hands on DC** cannot solve all these problems – but we help improve the condition of many schools and send an important message to students and the community: People care about the future of our children and we will do something positive about it.

Hands on DC produces many rewards: Volunteers see the results of their work and meet great people in the process. Neighborhoods rally around their schools. Children return to better places of learning and get the support required to succeed.

A Washington Post editorial called the Work-a-Thon “another dramatic demonstration of what a difference a day makes.” One volunteer simply wrote us, “I had the greatest day...Thanks for letting me help!” You too can lend DC kids a hand...

**GET
INVOLVED**

in **Hands on DC** by calling 202-667-5808 or by sending us e-mail at ForDCKids@aol.com. Or just come by a Wednesday meeting!

Check out our web site: www.HandsOnDC.org

Hands on DC is an all-volunteer service project of College Bound, Inc., a tax-exempt entity under Sec. 501(3)(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.



Hands on DC Student Profiles

The following Washington, DC high school students are being sponsored by *Hands on DC* at the community-based organization College Bound (see attached description for more details on College Bound). They are at various stages of their high school education -- but each student plans to attend college with the support of money raised by *Hands on DC* volunteers.

Currently, three College Bound graduates are attending college and using *Hands on DC* scholarships they earned through hard work: Karen Cohen at North Carolina/Wesleyan; Tanika Stewart at Virginia Union; and Kevin Jackson at the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore. Other current college students have received support through local organizations that also administer *Hands on DC* scholarship money, including Funds for the Community's Future and the "Beat the Odds" program run by the Children's Defense Fund.

The following DC high school students are also "College Bound" thanks to the sponsorship of *Hands on DC*:

LINSTON TERRY

Senior -- Benjamin Banneker Senior High School

It takes Linston an hour-and-a-half to travel to school each day because he must walk a good distance, then take two trains and a bus. His family has moved four times since fire destroyed their home just two years ago, and he has lost a brother to a drugs. Yet, none of these obstacles has lessened Linston's determination. "Too many kids say they are a victim of circumstance but I tell them, 'You're smart. Go to school. Do your work and you can find out what you should be doing with your life'" Linston explains.

Linston's drive toward his goals is the result of his focused determination to succeed. His role of as co-captain of the basketball team is a perfect example: in past years, he was cut from the team and told to pursue other interests -- but he worked on his game and maintained a positive attitude that not only won him a spot on the squad but also recognition as a team leader.

There are plenty of positive choices available to Linston Terry. He has already been applied to four colleges -- including Penn State and Loyola University -- and looks forward to the start of his college career this autumn. He plans to study education and hopes to be a teacher some day. In the meantime, he will keep busy with a range of high school activities, including being co-captain of the basketball team, student government president and a member of the chess and poetry clubs. He also works part-time in a local barber shop, saving the money he earns for future tuition payments.

When asked to name one of his heroes, Linston points to the barber, Mr. Spruill, who gave him his first job and taught him to cut hair. "It's those every day people who don't have a million dollars, but they deal with the pressures of life in a positive way," Linston says.

WAJEEDAH ROBERTSON
Senior -- Anacostia High School

Her name means "compassionate" in Arabic, and Wajeedah has lived up to her name. Since tenth grade, she has been an intern at Creative Associates International, a global alliance that works to better the lives of urban residents.

But Wajeedah knows that compassion is just one of the emotions and skills she will need to get ahead. "The only way to succeed is through knowledge," she says. "As much knowledge as you can gain. Nothing is more important."

Wajeedah studies math and vocabulary with her College Bound mentor, Stephanie Mudge, who is also a member of the *Hands on DC* organizing committee. These subject will help in Wajeedah's chosen profession -- computer science. She has applied to several colleges and is leaning toward attending North Carolina A&T.

Her mother and sister have helped Wajeedah stay focused on her school work. She says one of the biggest challenges facing young people today is peer pressure. "You have to know your limits and those of your friends," she says.

And when asked what the world needs now, Wajeedah responds with a single word: "Peace."

GARY HENDERSON, JR.
Junior -- Eastern High School

Gary and his College Bound mentor, Justin Pritchard, share more than just their weekly study sessions. They have played basketball together, gone to museums and seen movies. This relationship, coupled with the support of Gary's family and his strong religious beliefs, have laid the foundation for a bright future.

Gary enjoys computer technology and hopes to start his own business one day. He works after school at a day care center, where he plays with youngsters and helps some children with their homework until their parents arrive. Soon, Gary will be baptized at the Earth Bethlehem Church of Christ in God.

In school, Gary has seen a lot of "tough guys" who would prefer violence or truancy to their responsibilities at school. Gary remains cool and focused on his goals.

"When the going gets tough..." he says, stopping himself short of completing an old cliché. "Let's just say you have to keep your head up and never give in too quickly."

With the money he earns at the day care center, Gary helps his mother pay household bills. The remaining money goes toward paying his fees for special classes at school that will help him make the jump to college. He has already spoken to several college representatives at a College Bound event that brought higher education officials to Washington, DC. He's even gone on a van tour sponsored by College Bound to visit college campuses in Virginia. Clearly, Gary's future will include a return to the college scene for more than just a visit.

EDWARD SMITH

Junior -- Wilson Senior High

Edward Smith is an eleventh grade Honor Roll student who is always very active. He plays football, is co-captain of the baseball team and a member of the Red Cross Club. As part of the Red Cross Club, Ed delivered food to the homeless on Thanksgiving and Christmas. He spends his Saturday afternoons working at "Home Run Camp," with children ages 5-12 to help improve their baseball skills.

Ed lives in Northeast Washington with his mother, grandfather, two sisters and cousins. He credits the community recreation center for teaching him how to play baseball and offering him an alternative to the streets.

"You can't expect what you to come to you, you have to go and get it," Ed maintains as he talks about how many kids skip school or give into peer pressure. Ed concedes that drugs and a lack of parental support are what challenge young people today.

In addition to all his other activities, Ed is working with his mentor, Jesse Arildsen, to prepare for the SAT and to work on writing and math skills. Ed is looking at several colleges he could attend in pursuit of his goal of becoming an English teacher. As he remains ever-active and focused on school and his future, Ed will succeed because he sees the world as a place full of opportunity.

SHAYLA JACKSON

Sophomore -- H.D. Woodson High School

When asked to name one of her heroes, Shayla names Dr. Ben Carson, a Baltimore physician who performed an operation to separate Siamese twins. Shayla read about Dr. Carson in a magazine which described how the youthful African-American was discouraged from pursuing a career in medicine. "His teachers put him down and people said he could never be a doctor," Shayla explains. "But he was able to do it and become famous."

Not surprisingly, Shayla has her heart set on becoming a doctor -- preferably a obstetrician/gynecologist. She heard about College Bound from a friend when she was just in seventh grade, and she successfully petitioned the staff to allow her in as the youngest-ever participant in the program. For more than three years, she has worked with her mentor, Patti McNeerney, who by day is a staff member for the Foreign Relations Committee in Congress.

In addition to her studies at the charter school program for Business and Finance, Shayla is a cheerleader and is trying out for the tennis team at H.D. Woodson. As an only child, she feels a strong desire to succeed and return the support provided by her family.

"I won't let anyone tell me that I can't do what I want to do," Shayla says with steely determination. "I need a college degree to get the job I want, and I'm going to go for it."



HANDS ON DC 1998 MEDIA COVERAGE

Print

Washington Post - editorial
Washington Post - news articles
The Northwest Current
The Community News
The Eagle (American University)
The Washington Afro-American
Washington Parent Magazine
Who Cares Magazine

Television

WTTG-TV, Channel 5 (FOX)
WJLA-TV, Channel 7 (ABC)
WUSA-TV, Channel 9 (CBS)
NewsChannel 8
Channel 16 (District TV)
Channel 28 (DC Schools)

Radio

WTOP-AM
WAMU-FM (National Public Radio)
WCTN-AM
WHFS-FM
KISS-FM

The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Want to Help D.C. Schools?

HERE'S AN upbeat prediction about 50 D.C. public schools: They are in for guaranteed brighter times this very day—and you're welcome to take some credit for it. This morning and on through the day thousands of volunteers—anybody in the region willing to pitch in—will dip into 800 gallons of paint, grab mountains of tools and fan out to designated schools for a grand paint-in, plant-in and pitch-in that in recent years has made a world of difference for schools desperately in need of a lift. The event is more than a mammoth fix-up, too; last year, more than \$70,000 in pledges for volunteers' hours of work were collected for scholarships. The all-volunteer leaders of "Hands on D.C." hope to top this total today, with another well-organized agenda of specific projects.

It all begins with a kick-off rally at 9 a.m., rain or shine, led by Arlene Ackerman, chief academic officer of the city's schools, at Eastern High School, 1700 East Capitol Street. From there it is on to the 50 school sites for designated assignments to run until 3 p.m. While special skills are most welcome, there will be work for anyone, the organizers note.

The average D.C. public school is more than 50 years old, and even with all the court-ordered repairs, shows its age in more ways than official actions can possibly address in the immediate future. So there is much to do and much to do it with, supplied by area businesses, community sponsors and hosts of fund-raising events. The coordinators say they can be reached today at 202-667-5808.



Volunteers from Wider Opportunities for Women work to fix plumbing fixtures in the boys' bathroom at Francis Junior High during the workathon.

Putting Muscle Into Good Intentions

Hands-On Help of 3,000 Workathon Volunteers Gives D.C. Schools a Face Lift

By PATRICE GAINES
Washington Post Staff Writer

Three thousand volunteers marched into 50 D.C. public schools yesterday armed with 800 gallons of paint, 2,000 bags of mulch and enough tools to stretch from the White House to the Lincoln Memorial. They left behind evidence of their labor: freshly painted walls, repaired plumbing fixtures and newly dug gardens.

It was the fourth annual Hands on DC workathon which, in addition to giving a face lift to schools, raises scholarship money to send students to college or trade school. Volunteers raise money by collecting pledges for the hours they work.

The project is expected to raise \$70,000 in scholarship funds this year. The money goes to two local groups—College Bound and Funds for the Community's Future—that support low-income students and administer scholarship and mentoring programs to help those students attend college.

Another byproduct of the day, said Bill Wright, co-chairman of the event, "is it gives us an opportunity to show a lot of people what is going on in the schools."

"This is not the way people may usually see 16-year-olds," he said, pointing around the cafeteria at Cardozo Senior High School.

Most of the 80 volunteers at the school were students.

"In previous years, it was mostly adults," said Reginald Ballard, principal of the school at 1300 Clifton St. NW. "It took this long to get the kids to buy into the idea that they can improve their own environment."

Ballard spent his day being a gofer, "running sodas, taking pictures, finding paint, getting people whatever they needed."

In the cafeteria, Spencer Salas, English and art teacher, supervised some of his students as they

painted huge, West African textile patterns in bright green on the yellow walls.

Rumaldo Hernandez, 16, stood on a table painting one symbol.

"It's amazing it could all be done in a day."

—Courtney Fletcher,
principal, Francis Junior High

careful to stay inside the lines already drawn on the wall.

Hernandez was volunteering for two reasons. "I love to paint and as part of my community service hours," said Hernandez, who, like all District public school students, must perform 100 hours of volunteer work.

Outside the cafeteria, students in garden gloves planted perennials around a water fountain in a courtyard.

Florangel Cuesta, 15, a 10th-grader at the school, took a break from what she called "fun."

"I'm learning about painting," she said. "I just wanted to help out."

Jeroilyn Spicer, an English teacher, took a break, too. Among her accomplishments, she had "helped stencil flowers on the girls' bathroom walls and pulled weeds from the courtyard garden."

"I want to encourage my students to have a social consciousness, to be aware and participate in the community," Spicer said. "I can't ask them to do that unless I do it, and there's no better way of teaching than for them to see me doing it, too."

At Francis Junior High School, a group of George Washington University medical students painted over graffiti that reached nearly to the ceiling of a boys' bathroom.

"You can see it's going to take

two coats in some spots," offered Bali Mudanar, 21, a GW student who helped organize a group of friends to volunteer for the day at the school at 2425 N St. NW.

"We want to get involved in D.C. schools, but we spend so much time studying, we don't get into the community," Mudanar said. "But this school is so close."

"We thought it was time to put back into the community, because we get so much—our education—here," said Nehal Mehta, 22.

A group of 26 women came from Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW), a job-training program, carrying with them an assortment of drills and saws they use in class. They did the heaviest work, putting new doors on bathroom stalls, hanging rails, replacing urinals, repairing the chain-link fence outside.

To complete their tasks, the

WOW women came to the school a day early—on Friday—to see what tools they needed and to plan the work.

"It's important for the women to participate in their community and to understand they can use their skills to do that," said Bernadette Gross, WOW training director. "This gives them the satisfaction of completing something real and knowing they can do it. It's very different from sitting in a classroom and having me say, 'Do you turn this valve?'"

Principal Courtney Fletcher walked the halls smiling.

"We needed it all—the trees, the shrubs, the face lift, painting in the bathroom," he said. "We would have eventually gotten around to these things, but it would have taken us some time. It's amazing it could all be done in a day."

THE NORTHWEST CURRENT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1998

Serving the Communities of Northwest Washington Since 1967

VOLUME XXXI, NUMBER 16

CLEANING UP THEIR ACT



Bill Petros/The Current

Dozens of Hands On DC volunteers spent Saturday painting at Hearst Elementary School. In all, more than 3,000 volunteers turned out to renovate school buildings and grounds and to raise funds for scholarships. Other schools included Janney and Eaton elementary schools.

The Community News

April 23, 1998

Serving the many needs of Washington's diverse community since 1982.

Group Gives D.C. Schools a Face-lift

By Mafara Hobson
The Community News

Jennifer Cambell and her three best friends Asia, Ariel and Leslie were skipping through the halls of Bacus Middle School Saturday morning with bright yellow paint splashes speckled throughout their denim overalls.

"When we get finished," said Jennifer, "this school will look good as new."

The girls were four of 3,000 volunteers who invaded 50 public schools across the District—painting, planting and renovating school grounds as part of the Hands-On D.C. Work-a-thon.

Despite their day off from school and work, both children and adults donned their hand-me-downs to begin a day of manual labor as they gathered in crowds to the kick-off rally at Eastern High School.

They were welcomed by WHFS dee-jay Allen Scott and Eastern High School Principal Dewey Reeves.

Arlene Ackerman, the new head of D.C. Public Schools was also on hand to give a motivational spill as the volunteers turned in pledge

monies, received work assignments and ventured off to beautify District schools.

Robin Chambers, a 23-year-old graduate student at The George Washington University, said, "I just had to come out and help." Chambers, who studies education, believes that the appearance of a school effects students' overall learning.

"If a school looks run-down and

in bad need of paint, I've found that the motivation and determination is somewhat weakened," she said.

Last year, Hands-On-D.C. brought out 2,500 volunteers and raised more than \$70,000 for low-income, college-bound students. This year, the goal is to exceed that amount.

"We have the Hands-On-D.C. spirit," said Trudie Moore, a Randle

See Face-lift Page 4

Face-lift from page 3

Highlands student, as she and other students and faculty of the elementary school teamed up with D.C. Parks and Recreation personnel to paint classrooms and clean up the school's grounds.

The students of Randle named their project efforts after Hands-On-D.C. And in the spirit of "Hands-On-Randle," the students created an array of brightly painted hand prints in the school's stairwells.

Plenty of activity also took place at Cardoza Senior High School as volunteers painted murals inside and landscaped the grounds outside. Green Thumb, a Cardoza student organization, built tree boxes to replace the current run-down structures.

More than 50 volunteers worked at Francis Junior High School because there were numerous projects to be done. Volunteers laid new carpet in the school's library,

repaired bathroom plumbing, and renovated stair railings and fencing.

The process of selecting schools to repair started six months in advanced when Hands-On-D.C. sent out information to public schools. When the schools responded, Hands-On-D.C. officials met with principals to discuss the project.

Although most seemed to be excited to work for the good of District public schools, not everyone was thrilled.

"I wanted to see cartoons. I don't want to clean-up," whined five-year-old Gabby Gibbons, who cried for a while and said, "I don't even have to go to school: it's not fair."

At the close of the day, Hands-On-D.C. organizers arranged for all volunteers to meet at Capitol City Brewing Co. at 8 p.m. for a closing dinner party.

After learning about the dinner party, little Gabby wiped her tears away and innocently asked, "Are they gonna have hamburgers?"

The Eagle

The American University Student Newspaper

Since 1925

Volume 73, Issue 3

April 13, 1998

Hands-on work to help local schools

Volunteers will repair, clean D.C. schools

By JAN-PETER BARTELS
Eagle Contributing Writer

Thousands of volunteers will paint, plant and clean at 50 public schools across the District during Hands on D.C.'s fourth Work-a-Thon next Saturday, April 18th. This event is a city-wide effort to improve the condition of D.C. public schools and raise funds for college scholarships.

"It's sad that kids have to go to schools that are falling apart," Katie Belinski, a freshman in the School of International Service, said.

Belinski said she wants to change this by becoming a volunteer with Hands on D.C.

Before recent roof repairs, the General Services Administration estimated the schools needed a total of \$2 billion in repairs.

"Hands on D.C. can't solve all the problems in the public schools," Frank Pizurro, one of the event's organizers, said. "What we can do is send out a positive message."

Hands on D.C. volunteers will not only try to improve the condition of the public schools; some of the volunteers will collect pledges for scholarships from family and friends for the hours they work.

"We want to show the students of the community that we care," Pizurro said.

Last year, thanks to the help of local businesses sponsoring the event, the volunteers had plenty of materials to work with: 720 gallons of paint in various colors, 740 rolls of masking tape, more than 10 tons of hardwood mulch, about 6,500 garbage bags and brooms, shovels and rakes.

The result of the project was 2,500 volunteers working at 43 schools to raise \$70,000 in scholarship money.

"Every penny (the volunteers) earn helps fund local college scholarship programs. We have two main goals: better schools and brighter futures," Pizurro said. The scholarship money goes to two local groups: Col-

Volunteers will raise money for scholarships for D.C. students

lege Bound and Funds for the Community's Future.

"Students who already face enormous challenges find themselves in schools which shout out that learning is not important," Pizurro said.

Those students who continue to fight for a high school education often discover that they lack the money to afford college, he said.

"If we can make a school a little bit more attractive and a better place to learn, so that more students want to stay there and graduate, then we have done our job well," Pizurro said.

Lorrie Mitchell, a professor in SIS, said she read about the Work-a-Thon in the paper and signed up.

"The public education system is very important for me," Mitchell said.

On Saturday, she will register people in the morning and help to paint, she said. Even though this means getting up early, Mitchell said she does not mind.

"I teach an 8:30 a.m. class this semester," she said. "Painting is probably more relaxing."

Painting is not the only thing the volunteers do. During last year's Work-a-Thon, other projects completed included the stenciling of a map of the United States on a paved playground, the replacement of some flooring inside

Adams Elementary, and landscaping outside of many schools.

"Any help that they can get would be great," Belinski said.

For those interested in volunteering, the number to call is (202) 667-5807.

District Periscope:

Hands on D.C. volunteers work for community and education



Photo by Deborah Bush

THESE HANDS ON D.C. volunteers work together to mow the lawn of Shadd Elementary School. Volunteers participated from all across the city.

HANDS ON D.C.

Volunteers from all over the D.C. area came together on April 18 for the Hands on D.C. work-a-thon. 3,000 residents spent the day painting, planting and renovating buildings and grounds at 50 schools.

"All sectors of the community

came out and came together," said Frank Pizzurro, media relations. "The parent and corporate support is increasing year to year."

Founded in 1985, Hands on D.C. is operated entirely by volunteers. And, it is not only a work-a-thon, but it is also a scholarship drive. While working,

volunteers collect pledges for the hours they work and that money is used to help send deserving students to college or trade school.

Although the money is still being collected, Mr. Pizzurro believes that Hands on D.C. will meet or exceed its goal of \$70,000. He attributes that to the 3,000 volunteers who were able to collect pledges.

Among the 50 schools that benefited from the work-a-thon: Adams ES, Alton ES, Anacostia SHS, Backus MS, Bailou SHS, Beers ES, Birney ES, Cooke ES, Eaton ES, Francis JHS, Harris ES, Janney ES, Malcolm X ES, Miner ES, Nalle ES, Paul JHS, Peabody ES, Powell ES, Randle Highlands ES, Roosevelt SHS, Stanton ES, Stuart-Hobson, and Woodson SHS.

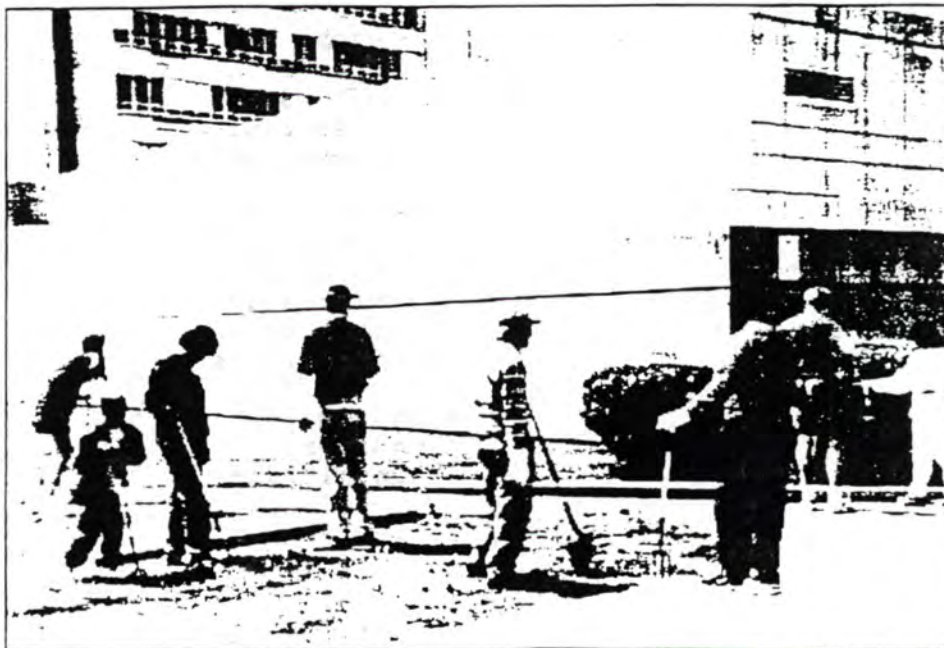


Photo by Deborah Bush

THESE VOLUNTEERS at Woodson Senior High School do some landscaping. Adults and students worked to clean-up schools and collect money for scholarships.



Washington Parent

April 1998

Hands on DC Lends a Hand

SHERRI LAREAUX

The face of the District school system will brighten on April 18 as 3,000 Hands on DC volunteers paint, plant and preen their way to more attractive campuses and \$100,000 in scholarship money for college-bound students.

Bethany Robertson, executive director of College Bound, a mentoring scholarship program supported by Hands on DC, says, "It's easy to see this program as surface—that it's just adding a layer of paint. But it's really making people aware of the problems in DC," and offering them a way to do something about them. Completely volunteer-driven, Hands on DC attracts a diverse group of workers, says Danny Wartko, co-chair of the organization. "It's people working together because it's everybody's community and everybody's kids."



Photo courtesy of Laura Patterson

Hands on DC was born out of a debate four years ago among young Hill staffers about the plight of the capital city's schools. They envisioned a two-part serve-a-thon: Volunteers would devote a Saturday to beautifying school buildings and grounds while earning pledge money for college scholarships. In the last three years, Hands on DC has fixed up 50 schools and netted \$170,000 for programs like College Bound, which searches for students with aspirations for college education, "or at least thinking about it," says Robertson. The students are matched with mentors and promised the college scholarship money as long as they stick with the program.

Scholarship-Bound

Hands on DC and College Bound enjoy an interdependent relationship. Hands on DC retains non-profit status as a subsidiary of College Bound by raising funds for them. And thanks to that support, College Bound has tripled in size since it started in 1991, currently mentoring 80 students from 15 junior and senior public schools. College hopefuls are recruited through the schools and teachers, though Robertson says, "A lot of kids bring in their friends." A fifth-grade teacher recommended that Linton Terry, a Benjamin Banneker Senior High student, join College Bound when he was in the eighth grade. "I don't think I was someone she could forget," says Terry. "I guess she recognized the potential to do well." To win a spot in the program, Terry underwent a rigorous process akin to applying for college: The administration conducted interviews with Terry and his parents and required him to write essays. Five years and three mentors later, Terry is gearing up for graduation and his freshman year at Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA.

Both the Hands on DC and College Bound programs attract 20- and 30-something volunteers. Wartko says, "The volunteers tend to be young, single, out of college" and brimming with energy and free time to do the work. Because they are fresh on the job market, however, these young volunteers tend to be transient, he says. "The people are changing every other year." It doesn't bother Terry that he has switched mentors three times since joining the program. "It's been a good thing because you get exposure to different people," he says. The group tries to match students and mentors with similar interests. Terry's second mentor is pursuing his dream of flying with the U.S. Air Force Academy, inspiring Terry to consider similar training as well. His current mentor, Brian Quevli, a history major, encourages Terry's love of studying the past. The student feels lucky to have his own personal study trainer. "You al-



Photo courtesy of Hands on DC

ways have help when you're struggling in a class. Sometimes you need that inspiration or that support or that extra push." His mother, Caroline Lanford, is impressed with her child's personal and academic development through College Bound. She credits the strong mentors and the well-oiled program with this change. "Behavior-wise, he's done well. His study habits have improved. He has much higher self-esteem." She's hoping her 10-year-old daughter and 2-year-old son can follow in their brother's footsteps and aim for a college education. "I'm pushing for that," Lanford says.

How Can You Help

Because Hands on DC's administrative costs are met at gala fund-raising events, pledge volunteers are assured that "every penny they raise goes to a DC kid," says Wartko. "There's no overhead here." The organization gladly accepts donations of such supplies as paint, trash bags, volunteer T-shirts and gardening flowers. Brenda Williams Robinson has two reasons to volunteer on April 18. For one, her eighth-grader, Stephan, is starting his first year with College Bound. And second, she says, "In these days it's hard to have good family time and what better way than to spruce up the schools or plant a garden?"

To learn more about volunteering for Hands on DC, call 202-667-5808 or e-mail ForDCKids@aol.com. For information about College Bound, contact Bethany Robertson at 202-842-0858.

Sherri LaReaux is a Washington, DC freelance writer

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 20, 1999

E. David Luria
The Brandywine
4545 Connecticut Ave., NW #1016
Washington, DC 20008

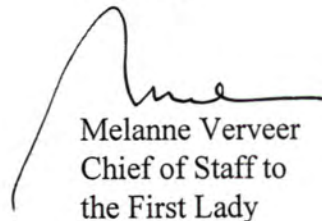
Dear David:

Thank you for your letter and the Year 2000 Calendar which is quite fabulous, especially the exquisite photos.

Congratulations to Rebecca as well. There are few experiences that are as life changing as the Peace Corps. She will make a tremendous contribution to the people she will serve and she'll nobly represent her country. The First Lady always tries to meet with the Peace Corps wherever we travel and they are always so enthusiastic and uniformly love their work. Give Becky our best.

It was wonderful to hear from you. Thanks again for the calendar.

Sincerely,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

E. David Luria
4545 Connecticut Ave. NW #1016
Washington DC 20008

(R)
Thanks
to
Calvin

March 17, 1999

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff
Office of Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington DC

Dear Melanne;

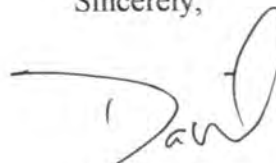
I wanted to send you this personal note of thanks for the great cooperation we received from the First Lady's National Press Corps office, which made it possible for me to photograph the White House Easter Egg Roll last year for the LB Prince Publishing Co.

We incorporated those pictures in the enclosed Year 2000 Calendar, which has just been published by LB Prince.. I am proud to enclose a special copy for you, signed by the photographer! It is titled: "Washington DC, Then and Now," and it depicts Washington of the past, present, and future, with each picture of the present taken from the exact same perspective as the old photograph from the past.. You will find the Easter Egg Roll picture in "April, " and it looks like that event is just as popular today as it was back in the year 1900!

The calendar will soon be on sale in bookstores, gift shops, and tourist outlets throughout the Washington area. I hope you like it.

You will be pleased to learn that 23-year-old Rebecca Luria (the star of our 1975 block party on Rittenhouse Street) has just been accepted by the Peace Corps to work in southern Honduras, starting in June. She is looking forward to it. Please give my very best regards to Phil. Once again, many thanks.

Sincerely,



E. David Luria



E. David Luria

*Photographer,
Specializing in
"Places and Faces"*



Tel. 202-537-0937
Fax. 202-363-5824
edluria@juno.com

The Brandywine, Suite 1016
4545 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20008

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 26, 1999

Mark Largy
Thistle Productions Ltd.
4808 Ada Boulevard
Edmonton, AB, Canada T5W 4N1

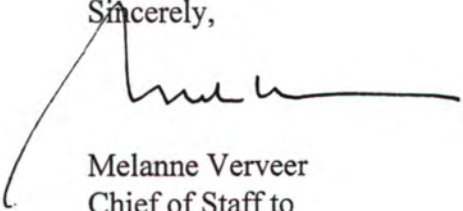
Dear Mr. Largy:

Thank you for your invitation for the First Lady to participate in an event to commemorate Princess Diana in Edmonton.

Regrettably, Mrs. Clinton's demanding schedule will not permit her to attend the event. But I know she would want me to convey her appreciation for your thoughtfulness, along with her best wishes.

All the best.

Sincerely,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Melanne,

We cannot imagine
what this person
has in mind. We
recommend a nice
request.

Harry

Melanne Verveer

Larry, do you
know
anything
about this
Shed / regret?

A Skirl of Faxes



Regen

Date: MARCH 4, 1999Attn: MELANNE VERVEERCompany: CHIEF OF STAFFFax: 1-202-456-6244From: MARK LARBY# of pages to follow: 0

Please call (403) 479-6290 if you do
not receive the complete transmission

THISTLE PRODUCTIONS LTD.

4808 Ada Boulevard
Edmonton, AB, Canada T5W 4N1

(403) 479-6290

Fax: (403) 479-0661

Message: WE ARE PLEASED TO INFORM YOUR OFFICE THAT
FINAL PREPARATIONS ARE BEING MADE BY, THISTLE
PRODUCTIONS, THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, THE ALBERTA
GOVERNMENT, THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, AND
ST. JAMES PALACE, TO HOST A VISIT OF THEIR
ROYAL HIGHNESSES, PRINCE WILLIAM AND PRINCE HARRY.
WE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE
PARTICIPATION OF THE FIRST LADY, MRS. H.R. CLINTON
FOR THIS OCCASSION.

THE THEME FOR THE EVENT WILL BE: DIANA, THE
PRINCESS OF WALES, A CELEBRATION OF HER LIFE.

PLEASE NOTE: UNTIL ALL ARRANGEMENTS ARE
FINALIZED, THE MEDIA WILL NOT BE NOTIFIED.

DETAILS OF THE CEREMONY WILL BE FAXED TO YOUR
OFFICE SHOULD MRS. CLINTON BE INTERESTED.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A POSITIVE RESPONSE.

CONFIDENTIALLY YOURS,

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 21, 1999

Deborah Larkin
Chair
Westchester Fund for Women and Girls
470 Mamaroneck Avenue #304
White Plains, NY 10605-1830

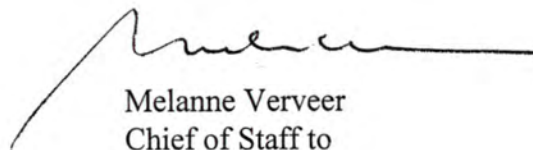
Dear Ms. Larkin:

Thank you for your letter and invitation for the First Lady to keynote the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls Grants Awards Breakfast on November 19.

It is not certain whether Mrs. Clinton's schedule will allow her to accept the Fund's kind invitation. But I have forwarded the request the Patti Solis Doyle, Director of Scheduling for the First Lady. As plans for the Fall are completed, she will be in touch.

Very best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanne Verveer', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

May 12, 1999

Deborah Larkin
Chair
Westchester Fund for Women and Girls
470 Mamaroneck Avenue #304
White Plains, NY 10605-1830

Dear Ms. Larkin:

Thank you for your letter and invitation for the First Lady to keynote the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls Grants Awards Breakfast on November 19.

It is not certain whether Mrs. Clinton's schedule will allow her to accept the Fund's kind invitation. But I have forwarded the request the Patti Solis Doyle, Director of Scheduling for the First Lady. As plans for the Fall are completed, she will be in touch.

DIC

Very best wishes.

Sincerely,

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

—
Erie, respond to
letter from
me + give
everything to
father.



WOMEN HELPING WOMEN

The Westchester Fund (for) Women and Girls
...at The Westchester Community Foundation

March 12, 1999

Deborah Slaner Larkin
Chair

Elizabeth B. Carlton
Vice Chair

Betty Cotton
Secretary-Treasurer

Deborah A. Shields
Founding Chair

Barbara Edwards
A. Maren Hexter
Sumi Mitsudo Koide, MD
Helaine Lesnick
Amy R. Paulin
Jennifer M. Rutledge
Ann M. Tucker
Nancy Wong

Ex Officio
The Hon. Lois Bron
Patricia B. Larson
Camille Murphy
Elizabeth S. Pforzheimer
Ann B. Spaeth

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Ms. Verveer:

Beth Dozoretz suggested I write to you regarding a request to have First Lady, Hillary Clinton be the keynote speaker at the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls Grants Awards Breakfast on November 19, 1999.

The focus of the breakfast is Child Care, a subject we know to be of particular interest to the First Lady. There is no one who can inform and motivate other women about child care and other important issues affecting women and our families more convincingly than she. I have had the privilege of meeting Mrs. Clinton on several occasions through my work with the Women's Leadership Forum, as a member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, National Women's Law Center, and Partnership for Women and Families. I represent a constituency of strong and steadfast supporters of the First Lady and would be extremely honored if she would speak to our community on this important issue.

The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls was created three years ago because nationwide and in Westchester there has been a lack of financial and other resources directed specifically to females. Even though Westchester County has some affluent areas, many residents are not so fortunate. For example, in Westchester County:

- * there are an average of 4300 homeless people served each month in the County, the highest per capita of homeless in the New York state.
- * 61 percent of women in the County are living below the poverty level.
- * According to the Child Care Council of Westchester, there are only 3.8 slots for every 10 children needing child care. We need 1200 more child

care slots for children under the age of 5 and 16,000 more slots for school-aged children.

Our breakfast is attended by women throughout the County who represent corporate, political, non-profit, education and the private sector. We include a diverse population and broad racial and ethnic mix. Previous breakfast speakers have included NY Times Columnist Jane Brody; Olympic Gold Medal swimmer Cristina Teuscher, Olympic gold medal and professional WNBA basketball players Lynette Woodard and Teresa Weatherspoon; Assistant District Attorney in the Manhattan Sex Crimes Unit Linda Fairstein, National Executive Director of Girls, Inc., Isabel Stewart and McLaughlin Report panelist Eleanor Clift.

Over the past three years we have awarded grants in the area of Health and Nutrition and personal safety . This year's grants will be targeted to organizations and local agencies working in child care areas.

We would appreciate every consideration you could provide regarding this request. We recognize and appreciate the work she is doing for all Americans and look forward to the possibility of her speaking to us to help us support women and children.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 914-738-7829.

Cordially,



Deborah Slaner Larkin
Chair, Westchester
Fund for Women and Girls

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 7, 1999

Ambassador Philip Lader
US Embassy, London
24/31 Grosvenor Square
W1A 1AE, London, England

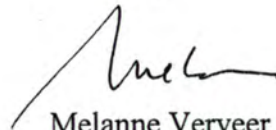
Dear Ambassador Lader: *Phil*

Enclosed are photos from the First Lady's visit to London. We would be grateful if your staff could distribute the photos, with Mrs. Clinton's compliments.

Hillary enjoyed her all-too-brief stay very much and is always happy to see you and Linda.

Best wishes and hope all is well. You're getting a fabulous DCM – well trained and much loved.

Sincerely,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

Data on

The Westchester Community Foundation



WOMEN HELPING WOMEN

The Westchester Fund
for *Women and Girls*
at

The Westchester Community Foundation
470 Mamaroneck Avenue • Suite 304
White Plains, NY 10605-1830

Phone 914-948-1612

Fax 914-948-5197

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



*Association With
The Westchester Community
Foundation*

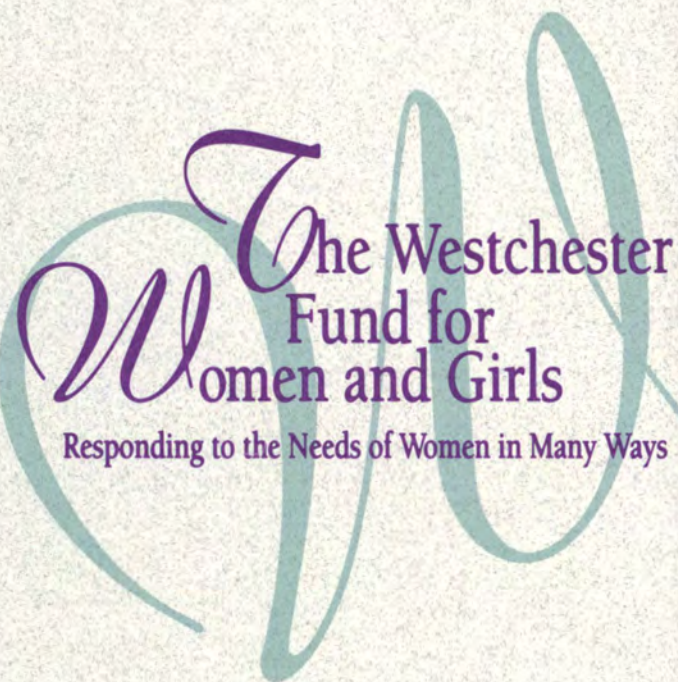
Through its affiliation with the Westchester Community Foundation, The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls obtains professional investment management, needs assessment and administrative support at a cost less than it could obtain on its own. As part of the respected community trust, The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls efficiently and effectively pursues its objective of supporting programs that help women and girls manage and improve their lives.



The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls/WCF
470 Mamaroneck Avenue
White Plains, NY, 10605

Telephone (914) 948 5166

Printing Courtesy of Kraft Foods



*A fund Created by women for women, for present and future **G**enerations*

The primary mission of the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls in the Westchester Community Foundation is to build a permanent fund and to substantially increase Westchester's support for women's programs. An Advisory Council determines funding priorities, reviews proposals, and recommends grants to be made to local not-for-profit agencies.

The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls gives priority to programs that address the following:

- Achievement of economic self-sufficiency for women.
- Prevention of violence against women and girls or their abuse and harassment.
- Promotion of health and physical well-being for women and girls.

The Fund also seeks to _ _ _

- Develop potential and full participation of women and girls in our community and as philanthropists.
- Increase options open to women and girls in all fields.
- Advocate system changes in our society that make it easier for women and girls to achieve their full potential.

The Fund's citizen advisors, the Women's Philanthropic Council, are committed to. . .

- Increase awareness of programs for women or girls and to increase funding from other community sources.
- Encourage cooperative programs among agencies and organizations.
- Convene diverse women of varied interests and expertise to discuss and resolve social and educational problems.
- Serve as an educational and informational resource on community needs.

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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The
Westchester
Fund
for
Women
and
Girls



Women Helping Women

Annual Grant Awards Breakfast

Tuesday, November 17, 1998

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.



The New York Community Trust

Annual Report 1997



THE WESTCHESTER FUND FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

In the Westchester Community Foundation

*A fund created by women for women,
for present and future generations*

*"Today's women
Born yesterday
Dealing with Tomorrow
Not yet where we're
going
But not still where we
were"*

Adrienne Rich

*The Westchester Fund
for Women and Girls
awards annual
competitive grants to
non-profit
organizations that
advance equality and
autonomy for women.*

Executive Summary

The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls is a fund in the Westchester Community Foundation. *The Fund's mission is to build a permanent fund and to substantially increase Westchester's support for women's programs.* As a permanent endowment in the Westchester Community Foundation, income from the Fund is used for annual grant awards to community collaborations and special projects that advance the health, welfare, safety and economic independence of female citizens in Westchester County.

Statement of Need

The needs of women in our country are profound even in a period of astounding economic growth and stability. For numerous reasons – most based on economic dependence and family/child care needs – women continue to struggle for self-sufficiency in meeting their own and their family needs. The facts, both nationally and locally, speak volumes:

- ❖ Women and their children currently make up 80% of all people living in poverty and are the fastest growing segment
- ❖ A girl who does not graduate from high school has a 90% chance of being poor and passing this "legacy of poverty" to her children
- ❖ Seven out of eight women seeking escape from violence in their homes are turned away from over-crowded shelters. (There are three times more shelters for animals than there are for women who are beaten.)
- ❖ Approximately \$ 3 billion are donated to charity each year. Only 5% or about \$166 million are allocated for women.
- ❖ For every four private foundation grants to boys groups, one is given to girls groups.
- ❖ The number of women's funds in the United States has doubled from 34 in 1980 to 65 in 1992. These funds awarded \$36 million to organizations and projects for women and girls (1% of philanthropic giving.)

In Westchester County

- ❖ Over 800 families receive services for homelessness each month, 98% of these families have women as heads of households.
- ❖ 61% of women here are living below the poverty level.

*Grants from the
Westchester Fund for
Women and Girls*

1996

*Ms. Foundation
For Women
Healthy Girls/
Healthy Women
Public Schools of
The Tarrytowns
PATH Program*

1997

*Community Planning
Council of Yonkers
Parents as Partners
The Guidance Center
Girl Talk/
Family Outreach
New Rochelle
High School
PATH Program
Northern Westchester
Shelter
Domestic Violence Law
Project
Westchester Community
College
Project Aware
WJCS/Manhattanville
Women's Center
Directory of Services*

1998

*Mamaroneck High
School, PATH Program*

*For childcare expansion
or subsidies, and
professional development:*

**Grace Church
Community Center
*Ossining Children's
Center
*Pelham Children's
Center
*YM-YWHA of
Southern
Westchester, Mt. Vernon
*White Plains Child Day
Care Association, Inc.*

- ❖ Research from the County Office of Women shows that in any given year about 50,000 women in Westchester are at risk of domestic violence. In the first six months of 1996, 3,155 incidents of domestic violence were reported in Westchester – more than 17 each day. There were 1,167 arrests for incidents involving domestic violence and 167 felony charges. 1,888 orders of protection were granted to petitioners in Family Court.
- ❖ In 1996, approximately 100 rapes were reported to the police in the county. Victims' Assistance Services reported 520 calls to their helpline.
- ❖ By the mid-1990's, the percent of females with AIDS increased by almost 80%. Nationwide, women represent 13.8 % of AIDS cases. In Westchester County, it is 25%-- the highest in the nation.
- ❖ Over one-half of working mothers have children under the age of 5. According to the Child Care Council of Westchester, there are 3.8 slots available for every 10 children needing care.

Funding Request

The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls requests support for the following initiatives:

Endowment Growth

The Philanthropic Council of the Fund, composed of 15 women who are leaders in the community, is working to achieve a first tier goal of \$500,000 toward a minimum endowment of \$2million. To date, \$250,000 has been raised. Interest earnings are used to support demonstration grants. As the Fund continues to grow, it will provide a consistent resource for grants that support the mission of the Fund. Gifts from individuals, corporations and foundations are needed to support the growth of the endowment. An annual Women's Fund Breakfast supports its growth and a major gift initiative was launched in 1998.

Demonstration Grants

Designated support for demonstration grants is needed to supplement interest earnings from the Fund. Annual grants, awarded selectively, expand vital services provided by non-profit organizations and underscore the needs of women and girls in the community. A Funded Programs Committee, a sub-committee of the Philanthropic Council, manages the Fund's grant program based on the following themes:

- ❖ Health and Nutrition
- ❖ Personal Safety
- ❖ Access to quality child care

The Fund has awarded over \$60,000 in demonstration grants in the last three years. A minimum of \$20,000 is required annually for grantmaking strategies. The size and number of grants will increase as the endowment grows.

*The Westchester Fund
for Women and Girls*

Philanthropic Council

Deborah Slaner Larkin,
Chair

Betty Cotton,
Secretary-Treasurer

Deborah A. Shields,
Founding Chair

Barbara Edwards
Renee Garbus
A. Maren Hexter
Sumi Mitsudo Koide MD

Helaine Lesnick
Jill L. Leinbach
Amy R. Paulin
Jennifer M. Rutledge
Ann M. Tucker
Nancy Wong

Ex Officio

The Hon. Lois Bronz
Patricia B. Larson
Camille Murphy
Elizabeth Pforzheimer
Ann B. Spaeth

Mary L. Luehrsen,
Program Director
Westchester Community
Foundation

"Never doubt that a
small group of
thoughtful citizens can
change the world,
indeed it is the only
thing that ever has."
Margaret Mead

Fund Administration (Operations)

The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls is one of 80 funds in the Westchester Community Foundation. The Foundation's Program Director oversees Fund operations and works with the Fund's Philanthropic Council.

The Fund requires the help of a clerical assistant that along with other administrative costs (stationary, printing, postage, public relations materials, etc.) are supported by designated contributions from Philanthropic Council members and other people from the community. Annual administrative costs are \$12,000 - \$15,000. In-kind administrative support (office space, phone, fax, copier, computer, and receptionist) is provided by the Westchester Community Foundation.

Additional sponsorship support of \$5,000 - \$7,500 is needed to produce the annual Women's Fund Breakfast where important issues affecting women are profiled and grant awards are announced.

Organizational Background

The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls was created in 1992. A 15-member Philanthropic Council advises the policies and programs of the Fund and it is administered by the Program Director at the Westchester Community Foundation. A Funded-Programs Committee directs activities and recommends grant awards to nonprofit agencies. The Fund gives priority to programs that 1) promote economic self-sufficiency for women; 2) prevent violence or abuse and harassment against women and girls; and 3) advance health and physical well-being for women and girls. The Fund strives to develop the potential and full participation of women and girls in our communities and as philanthropists, increase options for women and girls in all fields, and advocate for changes in our society that allow women and girls to achieve their full potential.

Founded in 1975 as an affiliate of The New York Community Trust, the Westchester Community Foundation is a public charity. It disperses approximately \$1.5 million annually from 85 donor-advised, field of interest, designated and unrestricted funds. The Foundation's Board of Advisors and Advisory Associates review grants and target community needs. Three women from the Foundation's Board of Advisors serve on the Philanthropic Council of the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls.

Westchester Fund for Women and Girls

Leadership Gift Opportunities

Your gift helps build a permanent endowment
forever benefiting women and girls in Westchester County

CHARTER LEADERSHIP LEVELS

Named Grants Programs

\$50,000

Each year, the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls awards grants to community groups and agencies that advance the welfare, safety and economic independence of women and girls. For a leadership level gift of \$50,000, a grant-making initiative can bear the name of its donor. For example, the Jane Doe Grant for Women's Safety from the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls, or the Jane Doe Childcare Grant from the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls, etc. Three leadership level programs naming opportunities are available that support grants in safety, health and access to quality childcare.

Named Collaborative Programs

\$25,000

The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls collaborates with community groups to produce programs that raise the awareness of issues for women and girls. For a leadership level gift of \$25,000, a collaborative program can bear the name of its donor. For example, the presentation of workshops or publication of materials that teach adolescent girls skills for life-long physical activity and health can be sponsored or co-sponsored by a leadership gift. Five Named Collaborative Program Opportunities are available supporting programs concerning women's safety, health, economic advancement and independence, access to child care, and equal opportunity for women.

Named Fund Events and Publications

\$10,000

The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls presents events and produces publications that serve its donors (numbering 300 since 1995) and promotes an awareness of its mission and activities. A leadership gift of \$10,000 will help support the Fund's annual breakfast, its newsletter and advancement activities. Ten Named Fund Events and Publications are available including the newsletter, annual fund materials, fund packets and publications, and breakfast event sponsorship. The leadership donor will be acknowledged for each funded event or publication.

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP

\$1,000

The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls began when several committed women each made a contribution of \$1,000. A gift of \$1,000 will add your name to this distinguished group of charter members and will help grow the fund to its first tier goal of \$500,000. You may also give a Charter Membership gift in the name of someone you wish to honor. All Charter Membership names are listed in Fund materials including its annual newsletter, event invitations and programs, and in an annual report to donors.

THE REPORTER DISPATCH

Friday, November 22, 1996

© Gannett Suburban Newspapers

http://www.nynews.com

50 cents



NANCY Q. KEEFE

COMMENTARY

Showing women the route to success

Cristina Teuscher was reliving her Olympic moments and got teary again.

"At the beginning, my races didn't go too good," she said. "I was panic-stricken. I felt pretty alone. I couldn't see my parents in the crowd (at the Atlanta games). But between the first two races and the relay, I had two days. I got out of the village with my parents and my coach, and they helped me relax. I knew that no matter what I did — even if I came in last — they'd still love me."



Cristina Teuscher

speaking Wednesday morning at the first grant awards breakfast of the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls.

Well, there was hardly a dry eye at Kraft Foods in White Plains by then. Cristina, the Olympic swimmer from New Rochelle who led the relay team to a gold medal in this year's games, was

The fund, set up by the Westchester Community Foundation, seeks to build a permanent financial base and increase support for women's programs in Westchester County.

It began with a grant of \$11,100 to a program called PATH, for Physical Activity and Teen-age Health, at Sleepy Hollow High School in North Tarrytown. PATH, an alternative to the usual phys-ed program offered in school (which never thrilled a lot of us, remember?) combines fitness training with health and nutrition education.

It has been used since 1993 in New York City schools and has a track record of success, particularly among girls from poor households. It helps them look better and feel better, and improves their academic and physical performance.

Lynette Woodard, a tall, slender woman who was a 1984 Olympic gold medalist and the first woman to play with the Harlem Globetrotters, applauded the idea. When she was growing up, she said, "I had a game. It kept me away from so many things I might have gotten involved with." Now a vice president of a financial company, Lynette still looks every inch an athlete and works out every day no matter how tired she is.

"I play basketball. I do everything," she said. "Sports carry you in so many things — teamwork, learning how to fight to the end, even if you lose. You don't get down on yourself. You look at your mistakes and your strengths. When I did that, it made me want to come back and be a winner."

Sports also teach you to have dreams, she said. She dreamed of playing for the Harlem Globetrotters, and even though everybody gave her funny looks, she said, "I knew in my heart" the dream would come true.

She asked the audience to encourage girls — instead of giving them funny looks — in their sporting-life dreams.

The fund hopes to do exactly that and more. It also awarded \$5,000 to the Ms. Foundation Collaborative for Healthy Girls/Healthy Women, a national effort to find innovative programs to keep girls healthy and out of trouble.

Deborah Shields, chair of the fund, called them demonstration grants to show what the fund will do when it has real money. The goal is \$500,000, a symbolic number, she said: \$1 for each of Westchester County's half-million women.

But the heft wouldn't be merely symbolic. Invested wisely, with professional management by the Westchester Community Foundation, the money will generate income for grants for a wide range of programs to make the next generation of women healthy, safe and economically self-sufficient.

Women helping women. A great idea. To get in on it, call the fund at 948-5166.

Nancy Q. Keefe is a staff columnist. Call her at 694-5097.

THE REPORTER DISPATCH

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Opinion

A new fund: Women helping women

By Deborah Shields

It truly is "the best of times and the worst of times" for today's women — a contemporary "Tale of Two Westchesters." One Westchester is the sad story of the feminization of poverty, while the other is a success story reflecting the growing economic power of women.

1995 has not been a good year for many women in Westchester, especially those in need. First, the Westchester County Office for Women was decimated by budget cuts affecting programs that have been successfully moving women toward self-sufficiency.

Now women are holding their breath while they wait to see how the impending federal budget cuts affect funding at the local level. However the money flows, based on past history, less of it will be directed to women and girls.

Confronted by the growing risks of poverty, homelessness, violence (within and outside of the home), employment discrimination, inadequate health care and teen pregnancy, women need to help one another.

Because of the unique role they occupy in the family, what is bad for women is bad for society. All of Westchester should be concerned when:

■ Ninety-eight percent of homeless families are headed by females.

■ According to the Child Care Council of Westchester, there are only 3.8 slots for every 10 children needing child care, essential both to the well-being of our children and to the economic success of their mothers — and the county.

■ Last year, 1,243 cases of domestic violence were handled through the district attorney's office, and 2,000 Westchester women were turned away from the two existing domestic violence shelters due to lack of space. (There are only 27 beds total.)

■ Women represent the fastest-growing segment of the population contracting HIV and using crack cocaine.

■ 36.9 of the 97.9 births per thousand are to girls 19 and under, and 77.1 percent of births are to unmarried mothers.

Research by the Foundation Center has found that only 5 percent of philanthropic dollars go specifically to programs for women and girls. Other findings confirm that universal, generic

WHO WE ARE

Westchester Fund
for Women and Girls

The mission is to "create opportunities for the economic, educational, physical, emotional, social, artistic and personal growth of women and girls."

— Deborah Shields,
chair of the fund

- The fund was established at the Westchester Community Foundation.
- The mission is to build a permanent endowment to fund organizations and programs that will encourage the full advancement and participation of women and girls in society.
- Address: 470 Mamaroneck Ave., Suite 304, White Plains, N.Y. 10605-1830. Phone: 948-5166.

dollars do not trickle down to programs for women and girls.

During the last 10 years, women have learned that the best response is to exercise the power of the purse, using their checkbooks to establish separate funds for women and girls. They have responded in record numbers, raising more than \$80 million in more than 70 funds in places as diverse as Chicago, Omaha, Milwaukee, Waterbury, Memphis and Seattle.

None of this would be possible without the good news about women and their growing economic power:

■ 60 percent of the wealth in the United States is owned by women.

■ The number of women-owned businesses grew by 20 percent in 1992 alone.

■ Of the 3.3 million Americans classified as top wealth-holders by the Internal Revenue Service in 1986, more than 40 percent were women. On average, the women in the group were 6 percent wealthier and less in debt.

■ In estates worth \$5 million or more, 48 percent of female decedents, vs. 35 percent of male decedents, make charitable bequests.

■ More than \$79 million was raised for women candidates for Congress in 1992, only \$10 million for their opponents.

Keeping both the good news and the bad news in mind, a group of visionary women have established The Westchester Fund for Women and Girls at the Westchester Community Foundation, the first permanent fund in the county granting exclusively to women and girls. Its initial goal is to raise \$500,000 — \$1 representing each of the nearly half-million women and girls in Westchester.

The hope is that women who can will join together and give for those who are not yet able to: Women helping women. The mission of the fund is to "create opportunities for the economic, educational, physical, emotional, social, artistic and personal growth of women and girls. And to encourage the advancement and full participation of women and girls in society."

Until the assets of the fund are large enough to generate sufficient funds from income for grants, the Women's Philanthropic Council, the advisory board to the fund, will make demonstration grants that will serve as examples of future grant-making. The fund will act as an enabler of programs for women and will not compete with existing programs and organizations for women.

To write a column

- "Who We Are" columns are opportunities for local organizations to tell readers about their mission, goals, history and the people they serve. To discuss writing a "Who We Are" column about your group, call Associate Editor Laurie Nikolski at 694-5024 Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Westchester Q&A: **Deborah Slaner Larkin**

A Soccer Mom Who Is Proud to Be One

By DONNA GREENE

WHEN Deborah Slaner Larkin of Pelham, an advocate of sports for girls, hears "soccer mom," she cringes. The term, she says, does not do justice to those who are making a difference in their daughters' lives.

A member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and the mother of a 5-year-old, Ms. Larkin feels strongly about the benefits of sports. She is on the board of the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls, which recently awarded a grant provided by Kraft Foods to finance a physical-fitness program for overweight, disadvantaged girls in the Sleepy Hollow School District.

Here are excerpts from a recent interview with Ms. Larkin:

Q. What does "soccer mom" mean to you?

A. The term is starting to annoy me. I was hearing the sound bite of what a soccer mom is over and over. It sounded like it was a bit patronizing, and the political power and overall power of the soccer mom is much greater than the term suggests. For example, we have a lot of economic power. We buy over 75 percent of all the sporting equipment in a household. So we are now beginning to influence what goods are being manufactured.

We also are the people who are on the field. Most of us are not coaches, although some are. I coach my daughter's soccer team. Other moms are there in force watching. They see the condition of the fields, they see how the coaches coach, how the other parents react. They see how often their kids get to play. So they know a lot of what is really going on. Most important, it is the soccer moms who talk to their kids about their experience on the court and in the field, which is really the life experience — how to win and how to lose, what happens when someone doesn't play fair, how to be competitive, how to learn from your experience and how to set goals, what happens when you don't make the team, what happens when you get hurt.

Q. Should all women get out there and say, I'm proud to be a soccer mom, and turn the label around?

A. Some of us do it loudly, and some of us do it quietly. I think what is very important is for us to know that we have the control, that it is our voices that make differences at school boards and in the schools and what happens to the children. It is our voices that will make sure we get compliance with Title IX.

Q. That is the regulation that sports for girls must get equal treatment?



Susan Farley for The New York Times

Deborah Slaner Larkin, an advocate for girls' participation in sports, jogs with her daughter, Margaret, 5, in Pelham.

A. More than that — that any educational institution that gets Federal funding must provide equal opportunity. It was started so girls could take math and science. Sports was thrown in because what did it matter? — girls really didn't want to play. Ha ha! It's more than just getting numbers of girls out there, it's the quality of the program; it's the playing time; it's the getting of the uniforms; it's what has opened up that there are enough scholarships available for girls.

Q. Your daughter, I assume, is going to know there are opportunities.

A. She will, but I have an interesting story. We have to listen to what our children are saying. We live on a three-block street with 27 kids. When she was about 3, she looked out the window and said: "Mom, can I go out and play with these kids? I want to run like a girl." I about died, my heart was pounding so hard. But, fortunately, I said to her, "What does that mean, Margaret?" And she said, "I want to run fast." It taught me we cannot put our stereotypes on the next generation; she wants to run fast because girls run fast.

There is a horrible story about a 10-year-old girl in Texas. She was such a great soccer player that the coaches on the other team, all men, said they didn't believe she was a girl. They convinced the officials who were running the program to let them see her birth certificate. They saw her birth certificate and said, "This isn't good enough, and demand-

'Some of us do it loudly, and some of us do it quietly.'

ed a panty check. The young girl, who certainly knew who she was, responded, "I wonder what's between their ears." This was only five years ago, and these kinds of stories still happen. So while we've come a long way, there is still a long way to go.

Q. What is the emphasis of the President's Council on Physical Fitness?

A. The council's emphasis is really to try to stress the importance of physical activities for all Americans. It's quite important not only for the benefits you get on the field at the moment but what can help you later on. We're finding out more and more that physical activity at a younger age can help prevent diseases, like certain cancers; we know about osteoporosis, certainly heart disease, and juvenile obesity is a major problem. The symptoms of heart problems start when you're a child; with physical activity you can almost

erase them.

Psychological aspects are equally as great. There is much less depression when you participate. For adolescents, who have such mood swings and the hormones are raging, regular physical activity can really help monitor that and put you on an even keel. If for no other reason, parents should encourage their kids to participate so they can live together. There are more important reasons as well: most incidents of teen-age pregnancy occur between the hours of 3 and 6 P.M., so that's another good reason to have our kids on the playing fields or pursuing some other activity. There is less incidence of attempted suicide. As far as drug use, reports are mixed. I think drugs are really a societal issue. Life is very complicated.

Other major issues are body image and eating disorders in certain sports. And again, that's societal. The message, especially for girls, is thin is better; if a coach is always telling her that you will be faster if you are thinner, that's what she will do even through that is not as healthy for her. And, secondly, it probably will not result in a faster time. There is a point where it will make her slower and less healthy. And her immune system will get out of whack.

Q. We see this with the gymnasts and how young they are.

A. I think it's a terrible problem, but it's being addressed. I think you found in the last Olympics the age was much higher. But it's much more prevalent than with just the gymnasts. It's with the swimmers, with the figure skaters, with the long-distance runners. And not exclusively with girls. And it's not a physical problem at first. It starts as a psychological problem, and it manifests into a physical problem.

Q. What you seem to be calling for is balance. How is a parent or child to know where that right balance is?

A. I'm a strong believer that a child shouldn't do just one sport but should try several. We have to listen to our children and watch their bodies and habits and encourage them to be athletic. The best way is to be active ourselves. They listen to you. You may not think they're hearing you, but they are hearing with one ear while they're listening to their music and talking to their friends. And they do care what we think and say.

Q. Is television the big enemy?

A. Yes, it's a big enemy — and the computer games, even the educational ones. We're talking about balance. But the other big enemy is safety. By that I mean in many urban and some suburban areas it's not safe for kids to go out on the streets.

Q. And where does schoolwork come into this?

A. With a balance you can do better in your school. We have studies that show that high school athletes do better in achievement tests and are more involved in community activities.

Q. How, if there is practice every day after school, does a child get his or her homework done?

A. Watch less TV.

Westchester Q&A: **Jennifer M. Rutledge**

Women, Blacks and Charitable Giving

By **DONNA GREENE**

MYTH No. 1 that Jennifer M. Rutledge hopes to put to rest: women don't give to charitable causes as much as men. Myth No. 2, which she also feels strongly about: blacks don't give either.

Ms. Rutledge, a resident of Tarrytown, is one of the founding members of the board of and a major donor to the newly created Women's Philanthropic Council. Operating under the auspices of the Westchester Community Foundation, the women's council is in the process of creating the Westchester Fund for Women and Girls.

The fund's organizers say that in the past nonprofit groups serving women have not gotten their fair share of contributions. Ideally, the fund would like to raise \$1 for every woman or girl in Westchester, or about \$500,000.

Ms. Rutledge is a partner in the Delphi Consulting Group, a Greenburgh-based company that provides an array of services to boards and staffs of various organizations.

The Women's Philanthropic Council will hold a breakfast on Tuesday at 7:45 A.M. at Tambrands, 777 Westchester Avenue in White Plains. The speaker will be Marie Wilson, president of the Ms. Foundation and founder of the Take Our Daughters to Work program.

Further information is available by calling the Westchester Community Foundation at 948-5166. Contributions may be sent to the Fund for Women and Girls at 470 Mamaronck Avenue, Suite 304, White Plains, N.Y. 10605.

Here are excerpts from a recent conversation with Ms. Rutledge:

Q. What kinds of programs do you want to support?

A. The fund is going to give priority to programs to achieve economic self-sufficiency, to those that prevent violence against women and girls or their abuse or harassment, and those that promote the health and physical well-being for girls and women, whether it be adolescent pregnancy or targeted substance abuse programs. We want to give to agencies that will develop the potential and full participation of women and girls in our community, programs that increase the options open to women and programs that advocate changes in our policies and system.

Q. This is not a political lobbying group, is it?

A. Not at all. The fund will not make grants to individuals or to campaigns to elect candidates.

Q. But in some sense you are picking up where government may or may not have been involved in the past?

A. Exactly. And in some sense we're taking it beyond where government has been involved, such as



Susan Harris for The New York Times

Jennifer M. Rutledge of Delphi Consulting Group in Newmark Building lobby, Greenburgh.

A. I think there are about 50 similar funds around the country. They are cropping up more and more. We're more than half the population. As the information comes out about the gaps in delivery services to women and girls, I think you are going to see more targeted efforts, if not actual funds, established.

Q. Have you seen at first hand what the literature says: that many funds don't give their money even handedly to organizations that serve women compared with those that serve men? Is that how the problem is defined?

A. Absolutely. Many financing organizations expect that it will trickle down to other groups, but it doesn't happen. How they address the needs of women, given some of the overwhelming statistics that show how many women and their children and female heads of household are living in poverty. I grew up here in Westchester. I know that there is a perception that it is wealth-ridden and there are no issues around homelessness, domestic violence, child care and quality of life. And that's not true.

Q. Getting down to the specifics of funds for programs for boys versus those for girls, some of your literature says that United Way, for example, has improved to a two-to-one ratio. What is your reaction to this?

A. I can only talk nationally. Nationally, I do know that this is an improvement. I remember when it was four to one. It's getting better.

male foundation executives it can be seen as self-serving when their efforts concentrate on women and girls or any other special-interest group. It's a very forward-thinking foundation that will recognize the special needs of girls and say, "We will fund processes, not just programs." Which is different.

Q. What do you mean?

A. Programs are one-time deals. But when you address the needs of people, sometimes that is a long-term process. Organizations that want to make a difference have to recognize that. And I think you do that by having advocates on the boards, advocates as program directors and officers and also having people like the Westchester Community Foundation leadership recognize that special attention must be paid on a long-term basis to this.

Q. You have this goal of \$1 for every woman in Westchester — or \$500,000. How do you intend to reach that?

A. I think increasing the visibility and awareness and understanding of what the Fund for Women and Girls is all about is the first place to start. We must make sure word gets to all communities throughout Westchester, not just to select groups. I'm talking about multicultural outreach and individual efforts to reach varying communities. And we must make people in the agencies we're funding accountable so that their people work and volunteer for the fund.

more, 48 percent of female decedents versus 35 percent of male decedents made a charitable bequest in the mid-80's. And the percentage of women giving is on the rise. Often the tendency of men who inherit wealth is to invest in business while women invest in charities.

Q. Is this true across-the-board for women regardless of racial or ethnic background?

A. There's an interesting phenomenon. I'm not totally clear on minority women and giving, but I do know about minority giving and low-income giving. People of low income give a higher percentage of their disposable income than higher-income people. It does not equal the same amount of money, but it's a higher percentage.

African-American women — I know this community because I am African-American — have different associations and organizations that they give through and they give for direct benefit. I think as long as the fund — and I know that there are a lot of people who are concerned with this — truly includes minority women in their outreach, I think they will be pleasantly surprised as to what minority women will give. It's interesting, but people don't oftentimes ask minority women.

Q. Meaning they just assume they are poor?

A. Poor or disenfranchised or disconnected. All that may be true for certain percentages, but people give to what they want to give. Even the

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 26, 1999

Jo Luck
Heifer Project International
1015 Louisiana Street
Little Rock, AR 72203

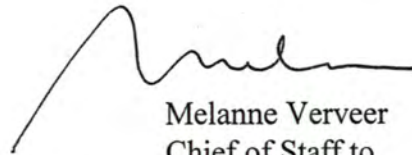
Dear Jo:

On behalf of the First Lady, thank you for forwarding the invitations to the millionth "passing on the gift" ceremony this October in Sichuan. It's a wonderful milestone for the Heifer Project.

Hillary's fall schedule is very full and it is highly unlikely that she will be able to travel to China. Should that change, we will be in touch with you. In the meantime, let us know if it would be useful to have a greeting from the First Lady for the event.

We convey our appreciation for all the Project has done and continues to do for so many around the world.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Melanne Verveer', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

May 25, 1999

Jo Luck
Heifer Project International
1015 Louisiana Street
Little Rock, AR 72203

Dear Jo:

On behalf of the First Lady, thank you for forwarding the email from Mrs. Sasser and the invitation to the millionth "passing on the gift" ceremony this October in Sichuan.

^{Hillary's} Mrs. Clinton's fall schedule is very full and it is ~~not~~ ~~certain to what extent she might participate in the event.~~ I have forwarded the request to Patti Solis Doyle, Director of Scheduling for the First Lady. As plans for the fall are finalized, we will be in touch.

~~that she will be able to travel~~ ^{highly unlikely} ~~We~~ Mrs. Clinton conveys her appreciation for all the Project has done and continues to do for so many, along with her best wishes. ^{around the world.}

All the best,

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

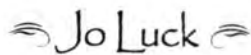
Envi → Do a separate response
to the Nina
Keung from
China →

It's a wonderful
milestone for
the Heifer
project.

to China.
~~this year.~~

Should that
change, we
will be in
touch with
you.

In the meantime,
let us know
if ~~but~~ ~~it~~ ~~could~~
~~be~~ it would
be useful to
have a
greeting from
the First Lady
for the
event.



May 13, 1999

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500-2000

Dear Hillary:

This fall, Heifer Project International will celebrate a milestone event: the passing-on of the one-millionth Heifer Project animal to a Chinese farm family!

We began our China program in 1985 with shipments of rabbits and goats. Since that time, Chinese families have been receiving and passing-on rabbits, goats, sheep, yaks, poultry, pigs, and other animals. Our Chinese staff have kept meticulous records, and we are excited to have assisted so many families in China to become self-reliant and provide food and income for themselves. We can now trace the passing-on of rabbits from the first recipient family all the way to the 21st level of families in a direct chain, with each family giving a gift of breeding rabbits to the next! We are so proud of our China program and sincerely impressed with the spirit of the Chinese farmers with whom we work!

Two years ago, Betty Bumpers, Johnnie Holcomb, Carolyn Pollan and Mary Sasser accompanied me to visit many of these projects. We heard many moving success stories from families in several of the rural villages in the Sichuan Province and we enjoyed the honor of participating in their "passing-on the gift" ceremonies. These dear friends and traveling companions will be invited to join us for the one-millionth animal ceremony, along with dignitaries from Beijing, Chengdu and Hong Kong.

Mrs. Nina Wang, Heifer International Foundation Trustee, has asked me to forward to you the enclosed letter of invitation to preside over this event, which symbolizes the genuine friendship between the people of

Hillary Rodham Clinton
May 13, 1999
Page 2

the United States and China. We have tentatively planned the event for October 8 in Sichuan Province near Chengdu; but would be more than happy to be flexible in the date and location to accommodate your schedule.

I agree with Mrs. Wang that your presence for this joyous occasion would underscore the United States' strong feelings for the people of China and that we deeply value their friendship. Please let me know if I you'd like additional information about this event, or if I can assist you with scheduling and arrangements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jo Luck", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jo Luck
President and CEO

JL:dj

enclosures



Chinachem Group

13 May, 1999

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The First Lady
c/o Ms. Jo Luck
Heifer Project International

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

The Belgrade Chinese Embassy incident was tragic and very unfortunate, especially during the peak moment of US/China relation.

As you are aware, the Chinese ethnic all over the world are reacting very strongly. It would be important to the peace of the world if the commotion could be cooled down as soon as possible.

With your encouragement, I have been devoted to Heifer Project's activities as my continuing effort to bring closer tie between people of China and US. Last week I had meeting with Mrs. Mary Sasser, Ms. Joan Brandt, Dr. Robert K. Pelant and Dr. Pu Jiabi in Beijing working on an event in October 1999 to commemorate 20 years of US/China relationship. We thought it was an excellent idea to invite the First Lady to preside the ceremony and present a gift of one million livestock to the Chinese farmers.

Today I had telephone discussion with Mrs. Mary Sasser and we have contemplated to convince Jo Luck to advance the event to an earliest possible date so that and the First Lady could take this opportunity to help ease the strained US/China relationship.

You have made remarkable impression on the people of China especially on modern Chinese women during your recent visit to China. I sincerely believe that we will be most delighted to see you again soon.

With best regards.

Yours truly,

Nina Kung (Nina T.H. Wang)

Heifer Project International

1015 Louisiana Street

Little Rock, Arkansas 72202

U. S. A.



FAX COVER SHEET

TO: Ann McCoy
Director of Personal Correspondence
for the President and First Lady
fax: 202.456.2370

FROM: Donna Jared
Assistant to the President and CEO

DATE: May 17, 1999

PAGES (including cover sheet): 3

Dear Ann,

As a follow-up to Jo Luck's letter of May 13 to Mrs. Clinton, Jo Luck wanted to share with the First Lady an e-mail message that she received this morning from Mary Sasser in Beijing. Thank you very much for your assistance with these communications.

Donna

Mary Sasser, 05:39 AM 5/15/99 , regards from Beijing

>From jmsasser@yahoo.com Sat May 15 07:44:23 1999
Date: Sat, 15 May 1999 05:39:19 -0700 (PDT)
From: Mary Sasser <jmsasser@yahoo.com>
Subject: regards from Beijing
To: "Prof. Pu Jiabi" <pjiabipu@mail.sc.cninfo.net>,
"Robert K. Pelant" <robert.pelant@heifer.org>,
"Jo Luck" <joluck@heifer.org>
X-SLUIDL: DB8AC49F-041B11D3-BA5A0010-5A17854A

Dear Jo Luck, and Robert Pelant, and Professor Pu,

Recently, it was my great honor to host Robert Pelant, Professor Pu Jiabi, Nina Wang, and Joan Brandt for lunch and to receive an update on the many successful projects of HPI. You do such excellent work in China. My husband and I have great respect for your many endeavors.

Two days ago I received a call from Nina Wang who made the excellent suggestion that, if at all possible, we advance the date celebrating HPI's work in China from the fall to as soon as possible--preferably next month. I support Nina's suggestion. My husband and I have discussed this idea and feel that humanitarian acts and acts of friendship between the U.S. and China are even more important at this time.

Would it be possible to celebrate the one millionth "passing of the gift" in June? I hope so.

We, in Beijing, are very sad about the tragic bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade. It was a horrible mistake on the part of our government. Jim and I share the grief of the Chinese people over the loss of life of innocent victims. We are truly sorry.

I cannot help crying every day when I think about how hard all of us, you and I and President Clinton and President Jiang, have worked to improve US/China relations. And, I know all of us are committed to continuing our efforts for friendship on behalf of

Mary Sasser, 05:39 AM 5/15/99 , regards from Beijing

both our people.

The last few days have been very difficult for both my family and the Chinese people. Each day gets a little better. We cannot people in either of our countries deny us the good relationship between China and the U.S. that you and I value and that the world requires.

HPI can play an even more important role right now.
Is it possible?

Please let me know how I can help.

With great admiration and warm regards from China,
Mary Sasser

Do You Yahoo!?

Free instant messaging and more at <http://messenger.yahoo.com>

Heifer Project International
1015 Louisiana Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72202
U. S. A.



U R G E N T
FAX COVER SHEET

MAY 12 1999

TO: Ann McCoy
Director of Personal Correspondence
for the President and First Lady
fax: 202.456.2370

FROM: Donna Jared
Assistant to the President and CEO

DATE: May 12, 1999

PAGES (including cover sheet): 6

Ann,

Here is the letter we talked about on the telephone yesterday.
Thanks for your advice on how to handle this.

For your reference, I'm also sending copies of a feature article on
Mrs. Wang that appeared in the November, 1995 issue of *Forbes*.

Donna

Jo Luck

VIA FACSIMILE

May 11, 1999

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500-2000

Dear Hillary,

I understand that you're on your way to Ireland, and I hope your travels are safe and that your efforts there are successful. I've just recently returned from Ireland and the Netherlands and found it beautiful and especially hospitable.

I know that you and the President are doing all that you can at this time to strengthen our country's relationship with China. In that regard, I feel compelled to inform you about a telephone call I received last night from Mrs. Nina Wang, Chairperson of Chinachem Group in Hong Kong. You'll recall that Mrs. Wang has been named by *Forbes* as one of the wealthiest people in the world and in addition, she is a Heifer Project Trustee and major donor. As you know, she supported the President's birthplace restoration in Hope, Arkansas.

Nina called me from Beijing and expressed grave concern about China--U.S. relations. Last Wednesday, Mrs. Wang had lunch at the American Embassy with Mrs. Mary Sasser, Mrs. Joan Brandt, an HPI major donor from Arkansas, Dr. Robert Pelant, HPI's Asia/South Pacific Director, and Dr. Pu Jiabi, HPI's local China Country Director.

During our conversation last night, Nina spoke frankly about her fondness for you and Bill, and respect for your leadership. She expressed hope that the President might send a stronger message to her

Hillary Rodham Clinton
May 11, 1999
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country's officials to help save face with the Chinese. In fact, she suggested that you visit China and speak directly with officials there. You are highly respected by the Chinese and she believes your personal presence would send the most positive message at this time.

Nina explained that over the past two years, she has lost contact with you and the President, and requested that I give you this message. Therefore, I felt obligated to let you know of our conversation so that you might consider her concerns from the viewpoint of the Chinese people.

On another related note, you'll be interested to know that on Thursday, May 13, we are hosting at HPI's world headquarters, Mr. Zhinian Zhang, correspondent of the U.N. bureau of *The Economic Daily*, China's leading business newspaper. *The Daily* is sponsored by the Chinese government with a circulation of 1.5 million. We'll certainly be mindful of the serious nature of international relations between our countries.

Hillary, I have always tried not to take advantage of our friendship. I avoid asking special favors or contacting you about matters that are not important. However, there are times like this when I feel I must rely on your wisdom to decide how to respond.

Please let me know if I can be of assistance in communicating with Mrs. Wang on your behalf.

Most Sincerely,



Jo Luck
President and CEO

JL:dj

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Forbes

When women take charge

Widows who step into their husbands' shoes

Real estate tycoon
Nina Wang



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collection of impressionist art, her late husband's antique car and rare book collections, three stud farms, fine English furniture and the family's 29-room Grove House mansion in London.

Seemingly easygoing and unpretentious, Janet Holmes à Court has turned Perth-based Heytesbury Holdings into an international conglomerate. It owns a vast array of assets. These include:

- Heytesbury Pastoral, Australia's largest landowner, with 19 million acres of grazing land and hundreds of thousands of beef-producing cattle;
- Stoll Moss Theatres, a chain of 11 live theaters in London's West End;
- John Holland, a construction company;
- Key Transport, a trucking operation;
- Heytesbury Thoroughbreds, a stud farm;
- Vasse Felix, a western Australian vineyard;
- the Holmes à Court Collection of Australian art.

Last year Heytesbury Holdings posted a pretax profit of \$5.5 million, up from a loss of \$25 million two years earlier.

husband's auto business, but she carted home the dealership's financial statements and balance sheets, spread them over the floor in the family room and studied every detail. Soon she knew exactly where the money came in, and where it went out. She took advantage of intensive business and accounting courses offered by Ford Motor Co. She also taught herself to go on little sleep as she took charge of a now rudderless business. "I had to learn very quickly to survive," explains the Mexican-born businesswoman, who FORBES estimates is approaching 60.

As she gained confidence, she bought Signature Ford, Lincoln-Mercury and Jeep-Eagle, a small dealership in Owosso, Mich. In 1993 she bought a Jaguar dealer.

Today Troy Motors' revenues are \$370 million, almost 20 times what they were when Elder took over. The Troy Ford dealership sold 19,300 new cars last year, up from 1,575 in 1983. Elder's Jaguar dealership is now the top Jaguar dealer in the U.S., selling 50 cars a month on average, up from 18 a month when she took over two years ago.

Irma Elder

Sleepless nights

Irma Elder's husband, James, died of cardiac arrest in 1983, leaving Irma Elder with three kids, ranging from age 12 to 19, a \$20 million (sales) Ford dealership in Troy, Mich. and a lot of grit and determination. Irma Elder was a college dropout who had paid little attention to her

Troy Motors' Irma Elder in her Jaguar showroom. She spread the financial statements over the floor in the family room and followed the green.

Nina Wang

Overruling her directors

In Asia, the world's greatest arena of economic growth, female bosses of large companies are even rarer than they are in the U.S. "In Hong Kong people are still very old-fashioned," reports Nina Wang, chairman of Chinachem Group, Hong Kong's largest privately held real estate developer.

Her husband, Teh Huei (Teddy), was kidnapped in



Backfick

Widows take charge



Chinachem Group Chairman Nina Wang
on holiday in the south of France

Now planning to build the world's tallest building.

1983 and released after Nina paid an \$11 million ransom. In 1990 Teddy was kidnapped again. Although Nina handed over more than half the reported \$60 million demanded by her husband's captors, he was never seen again. Nina took over his extensive business interests.

Barely five feet tall and dressed in a shiny silver miniskirt with two pigtailed sticking out from either side of her head, the Shanghai-born Wang looks like a trendy teenybopper on her way to the mall. But look again. Wang's Chinachem owns all or part of some 200 buildings in Hong Kong. Wang's list of outside investments runs pages long, and includes shares in British property developer Chelsfield Plc. and Taiwan-based Yangming Marine Transport Corp. In the U.S., Chinachem has invested in biotech firm Genelabs Technologies, Inc. and the private restaurant/club chain House of Blues.

In typical fashion for a Chinese company, Wang steers clear of debt. Stubbornly private, Wang is as secretive about her company's earnings and assets as she is about her age (FORBES figures she's 59). But a Hong Kong property analyst with Jones Lang Wootton Ltd. estimates that Chinachem is one of the colony's "most cash-rich developers." Wang's peers estimate her company is worth between \$2 billion and \$3 billion.

A great believer in the future of China, Nina Wang has bought 50% of a meat-processing plant and another 70% of a power generator in the Henan province south of Beijing. As a symbol of her confidence in the future of Hong Kong, she announced earlier this year plans to build Nina Tower, at 1,594 feet expected to be the world's tallest building. Barring further regulatory squabbles, the expected completion date is 1999, two years after the British colony is turned back to the Chinese. "Everyone says I'm silly, but I think it's a great idea," says Wang in halting English. "My directors said, 1997 is coming, grab your money and get out. But I said, I have confidence in Hong Kong: This is a building for the future, a way of looking to tomorrow."

Nina Wang overruled her directors. "When I do well, people say it's only because of what my husband created," she shrugs. "When things go wrong, they say I'm ruining my husband's company."

Rosemary Garbett

Learning to swim the hard way

A high school graduate who married at 18 and left every decision up to her husband, Rosemary Garbett of Houston describes herself as "a very dominated housewife." But her husband, Thomas, accidentally shot himself to death in 1976, and Garbett was left in charge of four children, \$250,000 in debt and \$20,000 in life insurance.

Garbett's accountant and lawyer advised her to sell her



Rosemary Garbett in one of her five
Los Tios Mexican Restaurants

"What saved me was that I knew how to balance the books."